

Chancellor's critics win boost for railways

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

The Cabinet, after two hours of talks on economic strategy yesterday, was said to have agreed that the Treasury's "broad general policy" should continue.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, considered afterwards that they had won endorsement of their view that the reduction of inflation, though made harder by the fall in the value of the pound, must remain the main task, and that sustained recovery in output and employment demanded that.

There was, however, substantial disagreement about the proper level of public expenditure for next year, and anxiety about the rising level of unemployment.

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Employment, characteristically raised this first. He had come armed with figures from Treasury sources, which he quoted as showing unemployment standing at three million or more in two or three years time.

There was what one source described as an "arm's length" discussion on the expenditure cuts which the Treasury will be seeking next year. One senior minister after another appears to have argued that there was no room to trim programmes any further. There was no extended arguments. That will happen between each department and the Treasury in turn, in the autumn.

The Chancellor opened with a 15-minute survey, designed to show that present strategy was succeeding.

Speaking to a brief which he had circulated in advance, he reminded his colleagues of the Government's inheritance of high inflation and low com-

BL making more cars with 30,000 fewer men

By Edward Townsend

Sir Michael Edwards, chairman of less-making BL, disclosed a new set of productivity figures yesterday showing that the company is now making more cars with 30,000 fewer workers than a year ago.

In the first five months of this year, BL produced an estimated 170,000 cars—about 4 per cent more than in the same period of 1980.

Sir Michael said that since the start of 1979 more than 60,000 people had left the company, making BL's total United Kingdom labour force 120,000, and that demanning had not caused a single major strike. Twelve factories had been totally or partly closed.

The closure of the Rover plant at Solihull is expected to reduce the labour force by a further 10,000 during the next 14 months and Sir Michael has already indicated that numbers will continue to fall until the end of next year.

His speech yesterday, delivered to the American Chamber of Commerce in London, was designed, however, to counter suggestions that the BL recovery plan, being backed with another £900m of state aid, was concerned with decline.

"In 1980 we halted the decline in our market share on trucks and cars, a decline that had gone on for many years. Since the launch of the Metro our share of the car market has not only stabilised but gone up again."

The strategy might include cuts, but it was not confined to negative action, he said.

The new Triumph Acclaim being built at Cowley in Colchester, he said, was now coming off the production line, just 18 months after the joint venture agreement was signed. Like the Metro and Land-Rover projects, the Acclaim had been on time and within its capital expenditure estimates.

These projects, plus a comprehensive renewal of the truck and bus range, were funded by a mixture of internal generation, public finance and borrowings from banks. "The Government have not been used to subsidise strikes in any sense."

Sir Michael said in 1976 the big BL factory at Longbridge in Birmingham was free of disputes for only 8 per cent of working hours. Now the company has been dispute-free in its 36 factories this year for more than 99 per cent of available hours.

"We may or may not recover, but our work force is co-operating well. They deserve full credit. The major threats now are external rather than threats from within the company."

On the new voluntary agreement between Japan and the United States to limit Japanese imports, Sir Michael said he found themselves able to keep to this agreement with more punctiliousness than they have shown in Britain, where their light van sales this year are running at double the agreed quota.



Mr. Wedgwood Benn, cheerful if slightly unsteady, yesterday clambered into an aging red Mini and headed for home and recuperation before returning to the Labour Party campaign trail.

By a Staff Reporter

"I am feeling very well," he declared. "That must be obvious." After a rest until the end of July and a holiday in August, "I shall start again in September."

His absence, he said, would affect "not in the slightest" his campaign for the party deputy leadership. "It is not about me, it is about issues, and the issues are well launched."

He declined to comment on Mr. Healey or Mr. Foot but announced that it was his 32nd wedding anniversary which he was celebrating by going home. "It will be our first time together without an engagement for a very long time."

Mr. Michael Foot, who addressed the policy conference of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation at Bourne-mouth yesterday, appeared to tone down his attack on Mr. Benn. He urged the party to settle its differences and concentrate on the "real enemy", the Government.

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Putting people right, page 14

Tories pick bus driver for Warrington fight

Mr Stanley Sorrell, aged 42, a London Transport bus driver, is to fight the Warrington by-election for the Conservative Party.

A father of five, he was chosen from a record 73 prospective candidates to try to retain the Conservative's gradualist stance and to challenge the Labour stronghold.

Mr Sorrell, of Mill Hill, north London, was adopted Parliamentary candidate at a special general meeting of Warrington Conservatives, and defeated local hopefuls.

He was a member of Hackney Council from 1968 to 1971, and served on the planning and highways and housing committees. He was elected a member of Barnet Council in 1978 and is a member of the housing, public works and allotments committees.

He is a governor of eight schools and a committee member of the Anglo-Asian Conservative Society, Barnet branch.

He was branch chairman of the Transport and General Workers' Union at the time he gave up his job in 1977 to 1979. He joined the Finchley and Friars' Barnet Conservative Association in 1974, and was elected vice chairman in 1979.

He is facing the biggest challenge the Conservatives have had in any Warrington contest—that of holding the party's place against the Social Democrats' Mr Roy Jenkins. He has been in second position in Parliamentary contests for the past 35 years.

Labour has drawn up a short list of six from 60 nominations and these will be considered by the constituency management committee at the end of this week. A candidate will be announced on Saturday.

A moderate candidate strongly identified with the grass-roots of trade unionism and able to mount an aggressive campaign against rising unemployment and the town's shrinking heavy manufacturing base is seen as the ideal choice. He is a widower with two children, a son and a daughter, and has about 10 years' experience in his first major attack. Labour want a man with an industrial background prepared to do hard graft to create more jobs, in Warrington and elsewhere, he leagued parts of Britain.

Protests on Ulster mar royal visit

From Michael Leapman, New York, June 17

Prince Charles paid his visit to New York today on a warm, sunny morning, but received far fewer welcomes than a coltish welcome. City and state officials used the occasion to criticize British policy in Ireland, Irish-Americans planned a big demonstration and there was a mean-spirited quarrel about the prince's visit.

It was therefore not surprising that the Prince, who complained of laryngitis, was a bit sharp with reporters when he arrived at a pier in Lower Manhattan for a lunchtime cruise round the harbour.

"I ask the questions," he barked hoarsely to a clutch of them thrusting microphones into his face, "sumbunt from his side, when he was asked, 'Then, when he was asked how he liked New York, he snapped: "I've only just arrived."

There was a brief incident just after he boarded the boat when a small group of flying Irish flag protesters, some a few hundred feet of the yacht.

The strongest statement criticizing British policy in Ireland came from Mr Mario Cuomo, New York governor, who said the visit "should not be viewed with unalloyed pleasure."

Mr Edward Koch, the mayor of New York, startled reporters by declaring the British should get the hell out of Ireland.

He said that he asked the Prince if he had suffered any indignities as a result of the Irish troubles.

He said the Prince replied that he had great sympathy for the Catholic minority in Northern Ireland but denied that British rule there constituted colonization.

Mr Koch also said: "The Prince said he gets distressed when he sees the British flag flying over the White House. He said the Prince was especially distressed because his great Uncle, Lord Mountbatten, was murdered by the IRA."

When he asked "Prince Charles about the incident in which a man with a pistol fired blanks near the Queen, the Prince said that "when the shots rang out, he rode toward the Queen saying something like 'Mama, Mama' and then saw other people on horseback drawing their swords to protect her."

Photograph, page 8

Israel 'mistaken' on reactor threat

From Patrick Brogan, Washington, June 17

A report prepared for Congress says that the Iraqi experimental nuclear reactor destroyed by Israel on June 7 could not have been used to build nuclear weapons secretly. The report, written by the research service of the Library of Congress, suggests that Israel was mistaken in considering the reactor a threat.

"In a normal operation, the Iraq reactor could have produced small amounts of plutonium, probably much less in a year than the 5kg required for a sophisticated weapon or the 15kg for a simpler weapon."

"If the reactor had been operated solely to produce as much plutonium as possible, the changes in operation would have been so noticeable as to quickly announce the purpose to international inspectors."

The report observes that the reactor would have been inspected "probably at monthly intervals, after starting up," by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"On the whole, the Iraq reactor probably could not have been operated solely to produce plutonium without quick detection, or is fanciful, and Mr Begin said on Sunday that he made an honest mistake. The Israelis also claimed last week that American intelligence had informed them that the Iraqis were building a bomb, but now admit that nothing of the sort happened."

Most important, Mr Begin repeated on Sunday that the reactor would become operational in January, and that it could not be attacked afterwards for fear of releasing a huge cloud of radioactivity over Baghdad.

The French insist that the reactor would not have become operational before the autumn. The connection report also suggests that no great amount of radioactivity would have been released. Anyway, Mr Begin denies that his decision to order the attack was in any way connected with the Israeli election on June 30.

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Paris economic summit breaks up in disarray

From Frances Williams, Paris, June 17

The two day meeting of economic ministers from the 24 member countries of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) broke up in unceremonious disarray here this evening.

A carefully-worded final communiqué failed to disguise the deep splits between the industrialized nations with the notable exception of France who want to continue tough money and fiscal policies to fight inflation and small countries who want greater emphasis on expansionary measures to halt fast-rising unemployment.

The communiqué states that both curbing inflation and reducing unemployment must be of prime concern. It says that no inflation is an indispensable condition for sustained growth and higher employment, requiring firm money and fiscal policies. But when unemployment is high and rising, too tight a squeeze would risk being self-defeating.

The communiqué admits that countries are divided over the extent to which expansionary policies would make inflation worse, and the damage being done by restrictive policies in prolonging the recession.

In sharp contrast to the unanimity expressed at previous meetings on the need to combat inflation through tough economic policies, the communiqué concludes that the mixture of policies to be pursued must depend partly on the situation of each individual country.

M. Jacques Delors, the French Minister for Economics and Finance, said that prolonged recession and mounting unemployment in Europe and the Third World could provoke social and political disorder. There was a danger of creating a new stop-go cycle in which incipient economic recovery was quickly stifled by higher interest rates to restrain money growth, plunging countries into deeper recession.

Buy British tells Suzuki

By David Spanier, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher gave a sharp warning to Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, in their talks at 10 Downing Street yesterday that Japan must open its markets more to British exports.

They agreed on the importance of free trade as opposed to protectionism, but with Mr Suzuki declining to be drawn on matters of detail, economic relations between the two countries were left very much where they were when the talks started.

International questions were barely touched on in the hour of talks, which with translation amounted to effect in a mere 15 minutes for each leader.

According to a very polished Japanese spokesman, Mrs Thatcher invited Mr Suzuki to give his views on Afghanistan, Poland and the Middle East, and the Japanese Prime Minister, in turn, asked the question of how high unemployment was in Japan. Mr Suzuki said that that was very high for Japan.

On the economic side, Mrs Thatcher emphasized that the Japanese market should be as open as the British market was to Japan, and explained the problems which countries such as Britain face when there are heavy flows of imports in sensitive sectors.

According to the Japanese spokesman, Mr Suzuki appreciated the frank expression of the Prime Minister's views. He pointed out that Japan is not a closed market, and that from the point of view of tariff and other barriers, Japan compares favourably with the United States and the EEC.

The Japanese distribution system, which British exporters have found particularly impervious, was not discussed.

Mr Suzuki assured Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, that he need not worry about a diversion of Japanese cars to European markets, as a result of Japan's recent agreement with the United States.

Both Prime Ministers expressed their support for free trade.

Fowler announces ban on 44-tonne juggernauts

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent

Environmental and amenity groups won a significant victory last night when Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, announced in the Commons that 44-tonne lorries would not be allowed on British roads.

Mr Fowler made his surprise announcement during a short debate on the Armistage report on lorries, people and environment. There was a loud cheer from both sides of the House as the Secretary of State said that although the Government was not ready to comment on the full range of the Armistage recommendations, when the Government's response came it would not contain any proposal for a maximum weight as high as 44 tonnes.

The Government, Mr Fowler added, would not therefore be opposing the Opposition motion which described the problems caused by existing heavy lorries and urged rejection of the 44-tonners.

The Government's decision to back down on the heavy lorry issue appears to have developed unusually suddenly. Only a few minutes before the debate, there was a three-line whip on Conservative MPs to vote against the Labour motion.

Although British towns and villages have been saved from the more monstrous lorries, Mr Fowler made clear that his decision came more from the fact that there was not a great demand for them from industry and commercial interests, rather than from consideration of the damage to the environment.

He said that the ban on 44-tonne lorries did not prejudice what might be proposed on the recommended weights for the four and five axle lorries. He had been pressed by almost all sectors of industry to accept heavier weights.

A jump from the present maximum weight of 32 tonnes to 44 tonnes would have taken Britain from having the lowest lorry weights in Europe to one of the highest.

Later Mr Fowler made another concession to the environment when he said that some amendments to the law should be made to allow users of waterways and canals so that freight could be attracted from the roads.

Parliamentary report, page 4

CBI call to outlaw closed shop

By Peter Hill and Donald Macintyre

Employers are to urge the Government to act quickly to eliminate the closed shop.

The call will be made by the Confederation of British Industry in a paper which it is to submit shortly to Mr James Prior, the employment secretary in response to his Green Paper on trade union immunities.

Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, immediately accused the Government and the CBI of playing a dangerous game by contemplating further "anti-union legislation."

His comment came as senior union leaders confirmed their decision not to reply to the Green Paper until three months after the deadline set by ministers.

The CBI's policymaking committee endorsed the industrial relations reform document which was submitted at its meeting yesterday and has also adopted a tough stance against the indexing of Civil Service pensions.

Industrialists are to tell the Government that it should phase out full inflation-proofing for civil servants and will emphasize its strong opposition to an extension of index-linking to pensions in the private sector.

The CBI will tell Mr Prior that it considers there is an important but limited role for the law in industrial relations. But it wants to see changes, including greater trade union accountability, further restrictions on secondary action and legal backing for disputes procedures.

The closed shop is now an important facet of industrial relations in several sectors of industry. But Sir Terence

Pay figures reveal sharp fall in living standards

While the Government was able to give the first encouraging indications that the drop in industrial output may be starting to stabilize, official figures also showed that living standards fell sharply in April.

Average earnings rose 1 per cent to stand 14 per cent higher than the previous April, but wages would have had to rise 15.7 per cent to hold standards steady.

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Critics of Ripper police attacked

Mr Ronald Gregory, the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, spoke of the scorn and condemnation of the police after the Yorkshire Ripper trial. He said the commendation given by Mr Justice Boreham—the trial judge, received scant comment in the press.

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Racism blamed for failures

Racism, negative teacher attitudes and inappropriate curriculum can play a big role in the under achievement of West Indian pupils in school, an interim report by the Rampton committee of inquiry says.

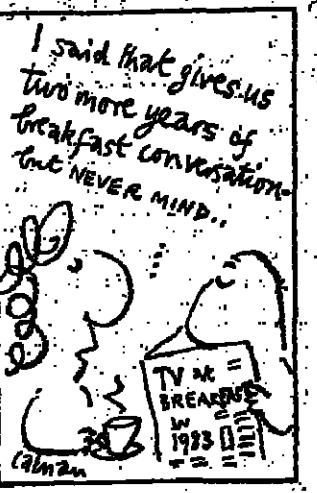
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Civil servants reject strike

The threat of an all-out strike by Britain's 530,000 white-collar civil servants recoiled as most were against a national walk-out.

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Police tactics not to blame for riot, Scarman told

By Lucy Hodges

The police officer who devised the "Swamp 81" operation to combat street crime the week before the Brixton riots said yesterday that it was not responsible for the outbreak of violence on Friday, April 10.

For that reason it was decided not to call off the exercise the next day, he said.

Det. Chief Insp. Jeremy Ploverman, who joined Brixton police station in January this year, told the third day of the Scarman inquiry: "I do not believe this operation heightened the temperature, more so it caused the disturbances."

Fueled the public anger at Lambeth, Town Hall, were residents during Mr. Ploverman's cross-examination and there were cries of rubbish after some of his answers. He said the Swamp 81 operation, in which 100 police officers in plain clothes were put on the streets of Lambeth, was a success.

He insisted that the methods used were sensitive. The operation motivated his men and made them more confident. It led to 543 people being stopped and 100 arrested, and 79 matters becoming subject to criminal proceedings.

Street crimes fell by about 50 per cent. Swamp 81 had the approval of Commander Brian Fairbairn the officer in charge of the area including Brixton, and had been discussed with the community affairs officer, he said.

"His advice was that the

temperatures were low and that there were no problems that could be foreseen." The operation was a response to what Mr. Ploverman said was a rapidly worsening crime rate in March.

It was intended to be a low-profile exercise, unlike the Special Patrol Group operation of previous years. But it was not discussed with leaders of the black community because it was a covert operation, he said.

The average age of the Swamp officers in Brixton was 24 years and nine months. They were not instructed to look for black people but most street robberies, muggings and pickpocketing were committed by blacks, mainly between the ages of 14 and 17, he said.

There was a tiny core of such people, Mr. Ploverman said. Fifty-six per cent of all footpad crimes in London were committed in the Brixton area of Lambeth, he said.

The victims were mainly old white women.

The Swamp officers were instructed to use surveillance and to act on suggestions to stop people and to use the permit and stop powers.

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The police were prevented from talking to Michael Bailey, the stabbed youth, on the Friday because local blacks did not want him to disclose who was responsible for the stabbing, Mr. Ploverman said.

He said he knew Swamp 81 would be used as a reason for the disturbances when news of it was published on April 13. But it was the drugs raid which caused the discontent, he said.

Miss Caroline Tisdall, a journalist, told Lord Scarman that she saw two men, whom she assumed to be plainclothes policemen, carrying iron bars.

She said the large, fair-haired man said his iron bar made a terrible impression and it would be better if he put it away.

He was in a mood of some excitement and said "It's great. It's like nothing else I've ever seen."

Miss Tisdall, former art critic of *The Guardian* and now a freelance journalist, criticized police tactics before and during the riots. She was convinced that the crowd of black youths would have dispersed if the police had withdrawn.

She blamed the riots on the build-up of outside police forces in the area, the rumours circulating about the stabbed youth and the Swamp 81 operation of the week before.

She said the police had to be polite, firm and civil, he said.

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Wildlife Bill approaches climax Preparing for Denis Howell's last stand

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

There is a notice board to be found at times outside room 12 in the committee corridor of the House of Commons which says "Queue here for the Wildlife and Countryside Bill".

It is a sign that will be envied by many a minister slogging away in the House of Commons in rooms either side, with an audience of little more than the Palace of Westminster or the stony tourist. The Wildlife and Countryside Bill would seem to have stirred the nation's conscience in a way that rarely happens with the more routine legislation.

Today is possibly the last chance for the Opposition to get its views on the conservation and environment bill, which is expected to be passed by the House of Commons.

It is the day when the standing committee on the Bill will finally decide on what to do with the "Sandford" amendment, an issue that will go down in environmental folklore.

Like Paul Rennie's ride or Custer's last stand, this amendment was inserted into the Bill when it was before the House of Lords as clause 39.

It provides for financial compensation for farmers from the relevant authorities when an agricultural scheme has been refused because it would adversely affect the character or amenity of the area.

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This would be done by means of a management agreement with the Financial arrangements decided on the basis of ministerial guidelines.

The Sandford issue also involves the encouragement of tourism and craft industries and the management of a minimum level of population. The Government's new clause, covering the Sandford issue, will be voted on today and may well prove to be the last stand of Mr. Denis Howell, Minister for natural disasters in the last Labour government and now the party's spokesman responsible for organising the voice of countryside conservation.

Not that that voice has been heard in making itself heard. Over the past few weeks and months, as the Bill has surged relentlessly onwards through the House of Lords and now the Commons, there has been one of the most successful lobbying exercises to have been carried out in recent times.

The farming and land-owning interests have been like a small voice crying in the wilderness, seldom heard outside their own specialist journals. The dozens of animal welfare, conservation and recreational bodies have joined forces in an impressive display of strength to apply as much pressure as possible on the Government and the Department of the Environment in particular.

Anyone visiting room 12 for a quick assessment of the prospects will be inundated

with earnest pleadings from a host of worthy bodies such as the Ramblers, Council for the Preservation of Rural England, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, World Wildlife Fund, Friends of the Earth and the League Against Cruel Sports, to mention only a few.

Decisive pronouncements on the Bill will be made with predictions that if this or that is not included, it will not be worth the paper on which it is written. At the drop of a hat, Mr. Howell will announce that he is so disgusted at what is going on, or at the intransigence of government ministers, that he is off to discuss with the amenity groups whether it is worth trying to make any further progress or whether the Bill should be talked to death.

The impression throughout is that Mr. Howell is as much in the pockets of the environmentalists as it is claimed the Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Farmers' Union.

But the image of implacable hostility is the ever-present and formidable Mr. Tom Deyell, Labour MP for West Lothian, who is a mine of sinister predictions. Mr. Deyell will be best remembered, in Parliament anyway, for his grim opposition to the last Labour government's Scottish legislation and for his swiftness in the House of Commons on behalf of Diego Garcia, a remote island in the Indian Ocean.

Any issue that brings down on itself the wrath of the MP for West Lothian must always be considered as in some danger.

With more than 1,000 amendments and 50 new clauses behind them, Government and Opposition will be under no illusions that the bill will emerge as anything but a big exercise in compromise.

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Speaking to the Commons standing committee on the Wildlife and Countryside Bill, Mr. Tom King, Minister for Local Government and Environmental Services, said he hoped the clause which had been drafted for insertion into the Bill faithfully reflected the spirit of the so-called Sandford amendment, which was passed by the Lords.

The essence of the new clause is a provision for holding grants in national parks or other specified areas if planning authorities object that a particular project will adversely affect beauty or amenity.

But as Opposition members pointed out, the clause falls short of the Sandford amendment in not providing for grants to be used positively for conservation and for developing, tourist and craft industries.

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Two killed as building collapses

Firemen last night recovered two bodies from a tenement building in Glasgow while being demolished.

The bodies were found after a desperate search through tons of rubble by firemen and coal mine rescue experts.

Initially, police had thought that more people might be trapped in the ground-floor barber's shop, after the two bodies were removed. But after firemen had checked the building, the search was called off.

The incident happened at a four-storey building which had a barber shop on the ground floor. A demolition team had moved in to knock down the upper floors of the building to leave his shop standing alone.

But while they were working, the interior collapsed on to Mr. Eusebi's shop.

Three of the five men demolition team were able to recover the bodies. The other two, Mr. James Muirhead and Mr. Dennis Ashcroft, were trapped for half an hour. They were taken to hospital.

When striking ambulances heard of the collapse on their radios at a night time nearby, they sped to Shetland Road.

Their union spokesman, Mr. Ian Caddell, said: "This is a serious incident and there was no way we were going to stand by on a picket line while this was taking place."

Three hours after the collapse, the body of Mr. Eusebi was brought out. Soon afterwards the second body was found. It was a customer in the barber shop, Mr. John Wilson, 47, of nearby Pettigrew Street.

The Prince of Wales named the aircraft when he visited the school last year, and a painting of its first official flight is to be sent to him as a wedding present.

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Issued by the Department of Health & Social Security

Racism blamed for school failures by West Indians

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

Racism, negative teacher attitudes and an inappropriate curriculum play a major part in the under-achievement of West Indian pupils in schools. But there is no single cause for their poor performance, the committee of inquiry into the education of ethnic minorities says in a 120-page interim report on West Indians officially published yesterday.

The interim report, whose main findings were first reported in *The Times* on May 22, says that much of the evidence received by the committee pointed to the cycle of West Indian under-achievement beginning in the pre-school years. It calls for improvements in pre-school provision.

It believes that the linguistic difficulties of West Indian children have been unduly emphasized. It does not accept that language plays any part in the under-achievement of West Indian children in British schools, most of whom were born in this country.

It agrees that both the curriculum and the examinations system have not responded sufficiently to take account of Britain's multi-cultural society. It does not favour the introduction of special "black studies" courses, but recommends that a multi-cultural approach should be adopted for all children, black and white.

The report believes that discrimination over jobs is still widespread and that, together with the disproportionately high unemployment rate among West Indians, may have a "demotivating effect" on West Indian pupils in schools and discourage them from achieving their full potential.

The committee calls for a comprehensive system for the collection of statistics on the ethnic origins of pupils, students and teachers. It was convinced that the absence of ethnically based statistics throughout the education system had contributed to the lack of positive action to identify and seek to remedy the under-achievement of West Indian pupils.

Mr Mark Carlisle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, told the House of Commons that he intended to consult widely on the report's implications for the education service.

He expressed his gratitude to the committee and to its former chairman, Mr Anthony Rampton, for the preparatory work. He did not comment on the report itself. It is understood that his dissatisfaction with what he considered to be a weak and inconsistent report was partly why he decided to replace Mr Rampton by Lord Swann, provost of Oriel College, Oxford.

Three white members of the committee have since resigned, purportedly over Mr Rampton's dismissal, though they were unhappy about the emphasis placed in the report's conclusions on racism to the virtual exclusion of other factors such as home background.

As reported in *The Times* on June 11, early drafts of the report had suggested that the home and cultural background of West Indian pupils and racism, both unintentional and intentional, lay at the heart of their apparent under-achievement. But reference to the home background was omitted from the conclusions in the finalized report.

The National Association of Schoolteachers/Union of Women Teachers, the second largest of the teachers' unions, criticized the report for being "long on allegations, but short on evidence and convincing analysis", and claimed that the charges of racism on the part of teachers were "too glibly uttered".

"The success of children from Asian and other minority groups is enough to destroy the credibility of allegations that under-achievement among West Indian children can be blamed on teachers' negative attitudes and racism, whether intentional or not," Mr Fred Smithies, the union's deputy secretary, said.

The National Union of Teachers, the largest teachers' union, welcomed the report and most of its recommendations but also rejected the allegation that most teachers allowed racist views to influence their dealings with pupils. It agreed that a small minority of teachers might be racist.

The appointment of four new committee members was announced yesterday, bringing the total membership to 20 of whom nine are members of ethnic minorities. The new members are: Mr David Wong, a teacher from Manchester; Mr John Evans, chief education officer for Derbyshire; Mr Akram Khan, inspector for multi-cultural education in Birmingham; and Mr Graham Cooney, head of Greenhead Sixth Form College in Huddersfield.

West Indian children in our schools: interim report of the committee of inquiry into the education of children from ethnic minority groups. Command 8273. (Stationery Office, £5.30.)

Leading article, page 15

Bus cuts threat to meet cash targets

By Michael Bailey, Transport Correspondent

Following the example of the railways, buses are to be withdrawn from little-used evening and weekend services to meet government financial targets.

That was made clear yesterday by Lord Shepherd, chairman of the state-owned National Bus Company, which operates about a third of Britain's bus services and carried 1,650 million passengers last year, compared with 760 million by British Rail.

National Bus has been told by the Government to achieve a surplus of £18.5m by 1985 compared with £5.5m last year. Lord Shepherd said: "It can be done but only at the expense of the people we serve."

Scope for withdrawing entirely from services is limited after a judge ruled in the High Court that Mr Dodd was in contempt for "exhibiting" the car as a Rolls-Royce.

Rolls-Royce had asked Mr Justice Whitford to jail Mr Dodd, a businessman aged 46, for breaching a court order.

The judge accepted Mr Dodd's apology and fined him £5,000. He was ordered to pay the costs of the case, estimated at £5,000, as they included the costs of two previous hearings.

"The Beast" is powered by a 27-hp Second World War Merlin aero-engine and has Rolls-Royce badges, radiator grill and a "Spirit of Ecstasy" mascot.

In April the High Court ordered Mr Dodd to keep "The Beast" at his home in Links Road, Epsom, Surrey, pending the outcome of the trademark dispute. Two days later it was on show as a "custom car" event in Southend.



Photograph by Peter Trivelp

£100,000 loss as fire sweeps yachts

A badly burnt yacht before being hoisted out of water yesterday after an explosion and fire swept along a pier at Chichester yacht basin. Ten yachts were destroyed or damaged at a cost of £100,000 (Stewart Tindler writes from Chichester).

There is no clear explanation for the fire but one theory being investigated by Sussex police is that escaping gas from a canister on one of the boats was ignited by a pilot light on kitchen equipment.

Mr Robert Hunt, harbour master, said the alarm was raised shortly before 1 am when one of his staff was woken by a "dull thud". When firemen arrived three yachts were found ablaze on pier D. Two yachts, Helwan and Seductress, sank and a third, Misprint, was destroyed. Two other yachts were severely damaged and five more affected. The blaze destroyed small piers between the vessels and left part of the main pier charred and broken.

£10,000 bill for owner of 'Beast'

John Dodd's £26,000 car, nicknamed "The Beast", cost him a further £10,000 yesterday when a judge ruled in the High Court that Mr Dodd was in contempt for "exhibiting" the car as a Rolls-Royce.

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Hospital reorganization Rival groups fight boundary plans

By Nicholas Timmins

acute medical and surgical beds over the next seven years.

The remaining acute beds are to be concentrated in 23 large hospitals, including the teaching hospitals. The money released is to be spent on improving London's heavily substandard community services and services for the mentally ill and the elderly. Thirty acute hospitals are to close or change their role.

Second, the government is considering, but will have to accept unless there is to be a disaster, a report from the Acheson Committee on improving London's abysmal family doctor and other primary care services. The money to finance such improvements will have to come mainly from the cuts in the acute service.

Third, London University's still incomplete reorganization of its medical schools is causing difficulties.

On to these radical changes, ministers somehow have to graft reorganized districts that will allow all three aims to be achieved together.

Almost all the new district boundaries in inner London are in dispute. But the two that highlight the issues are the new Riverside district, which runs from the Houses of Parliament to Westminster, and would take in three big hospitals, parts of three local authorities, almost 10,000 staff and a budget of £90m, and the new Lewisham and Guy's district.

In Lewisham, the local authority and the three Labour MPs, one of them, Mr Roland Moyle, a former health minister, are opposed to linking Lewisham Hospital with Guy's.

The new district would take in parts of two local authorities, Lewisham and Southwark, making that is so crucial to the transfer of resources into the community and into the "cinderella" areas such as geriatric care, much more difficult.

Guy's, they argue, already a past master at concerning resources, would take funds at the expense of Lewisham, a hospital which needs extra support.

A Lewisham health district, ending along the borough boundary is, the answer, they believe.

The health service's argument is that only by tying Guy's to Lewisham can it be forced to look outward, to develop community services. Only in a large enough district can money be squeezed out of the acute services to provide the improvements needed elsewhere.

In Riverside, the issues are still more difficult. It would take in parts of three local authorities, Westminster, Kensington and Chelsea and Hammersmith and Fulham. It would embrace two teaching hospitals, Charing Cross and Westminster, as well as St. Stephens, a large district hospital. Its population, at 200,000, would fall within the guidelines for the new health authorities, but its budget and staff would make it one of the biggest of the new district health authorities.

The crucial problem, as the health service sees it, is that London University has decided to merge Charing Cross and Westminster medical schools. The new school is to be based at Charing Cross's Fulham site, but with Westminster retaining 350 beds, teaching, and academic departments.

Westminster is still trying to resist, although the merger now looks increasingly inevitable.

The administrators based at the Westminster, and at Charing Cross, both oppose Riverside, preferring to remain separate.

Again, the argument about forging the teaching hospitals to look beyond their present limits, applies.

If they remain in separate districts, while their medical schools merge, each will vie with the other for resources and staff. Only by putting them together can there be real hope that they will cooperate.



A class apart: West Indian children and those of other minorities are still neglected.

Research conflicts with findings

By Our Education Correspondent

There is little direct evidence of the effect of racism, teachers' attitudes or of the content of the school curriculum on the academic performance of West Indian pupils according to a major survey of the relevant research over past 15 years.

Yet the interim report, published yesterday by the Rampton committee of inquiry into the education of ethnic minorities suggests those factors are largely to blame for the low attainment of West Indian pupils.

The results of the survey, which was carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research at the request of the Rampton committee, are due to be published this autumn. A draft copy of the 320-page report by Miss Monica Taylor, research officer for the foundation, has been seen by *The Times*.

The report states that the picture which emerges from the previous 15 years research is "complex with minor inconsistencies and more important ambiguities and even contradictions at almost every turn".

Most of the research was too restricted, covered too short a period of time, and suffered from inadequate background details.

Nevertheless, there was an overwhelming consensus that there was a strong trend to under-achievement among pupils of West Indian origin.

West Indian pupils were found to perform less well on measures of IQ, verbal and non-verbal reasoning tests, and were more likely to be found in the lower streams of ordinary schools and in disproportionate numbers in schools for the educationally sub-normal.

Regrettably, the report says, there was little direct evidence to demonstrate the significance of the climate of race relations as an influence. Such a factor did not appear to have been considered a sufficiently relevant variable in educational research.

The length of schooling in this country had been found to have a marginal effect on the performance of West Indian pupils, but social background factors, which were a common explanation in the early 1970s for low performance, had been found to correlate to a larger extent with under-achievement.

Correlation, however, was not causality. Such factors as a historical background which included slavery and traditionally poor education, together with low parental literacy, low economic status, high unemployment, overcrowded housing, a high proportion of one-parent families, and widespread use of child-minders, could explain some of the difference between the performance of West Indian pupils and their peers.

Comparisons with socially disadvantaged groups in Britain, and a national priority areas showed that West Indian pupils were still performing worse.

It had been suggested that through growing up in a hostile society, West Indian children developed a poor self-image, and that that could lead to lack of confidence and motivation.

European fares will stay high, air authority says

By David Hewson

European air fares, mile for mile among the highest in the world, are likely to remain expensive for some time to come, in spite of the claims of Sir Freddie Laker that the cost of flying to many European capitals could be halved.

The Civil Aviation Authority predicted yesterday that it would take time for a more sensible fare structure to appear within Europe. In a note to the House of Commons Industry and Trade Select Committee, the authority said that, though the climate was gradually changing, there was still considerable resistance to reducing normal economy fares.

"Much depends on consumer pressures being applied to European governments in favour of reduced fares, to counterbalance the pressure on the governments from their national scheduled airlines", it said.

But the authority praised developments towards lowering European fares such as British Airways' new Club and Europe budget fares and British Caledonian's unrestricted Miniprix tickets.

Increased competition was likely to stem from Laker Airways' new licence to fly from London to Zurich and British Caledonian's new Gatwick to Frankfurt route.

Britain has proposed that passengers using charter services should not have to buy accommodation to qualify for flights, but the suggestion was rejected by the most important Mediterranean tourist countries and is to be considered further.

Laker's appetite for new routes in Europe remains unsatisfied, however. Mr Christopher Brown, the airline's group solicitor, told the select committee yesterday that if Laker was allowed to compete on the London-Paris route it would probably halve the standard economy business class fare of £122.

Mr Brown said that the present system made enormous scope for unfair competition within Europe.

Two years ago, Laker applied to fly more than 600 routes and was awarded just one by the CAA, Gatwick-Zurich.

Mr Raymond Colegate, the group director of economic services, denied that the bulk of the Laker application had been turned down because the authority opposed competition on the routes.

The Laker application was rejected because the CAA did not accept the arguments over the interpretation of the Treaty of Rome or approval of the detail of the bid, Mr Colegate said.

Call to home handymen

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Tenants in the London borough of Hackney are to be asked by the council if they will take on minor repairs to their homes to save £253,000 a year for the local authority.

The council's housing management committee hopes that such tenants will take on such tasks as fitting bath washers, repairing small cracks and holes in plaster, fitting door handles and locks and do small glazing jobs.

Mr Charles Cable, chairman of the committee, said the decision was taken reluctantly, but that this minor repair work was uneconomical.

The proposed scale of charges and savings shows that to replace a washer, the cost to the tenant would be 10p, compared with £3 if the council made the repair.

DEAD PRINCE 'DRANK TOO MUCH'

From Our Correspondent, Oxford

A Saudi Arabian royal prince, who was found dead at his home in Oxfordshire, was overweight and drank too much, an inquest was told yesterday.

Prince Abdul Aziz bin Faisal Turki Abdul Aziz, aged 25, a nephew of King Khalid, was discovered dead in bed at his home in Sutton Courtenay on April 27, with a quarter-full bottle of whisky and a bucket of ice nearby.

The 16-stone, six-foot prince was a post graduate student at Magdalen College, Oxford, and was writing a thesis on international relations before entering the Saudi diplomatic corps.

Dr Richard Cowdell, a consultant pathologist, told the inquest at Abingdon, that the prince was considerably overweight for his age. The condition of his liver led to the assumption that he had "taken alcohol to excess frequently".

His blood alcohol level was 172 milligrammes per 100 millilitres, but earlier it could have been as high as 350 milligrammes, equivalent to a bottle of whisky, he said. The cause of death was due to inhalation of vomit.

Mr Norman Challenor, the coroner, recorded a verdict of accidental death.

Wider powers for the Ombudsman rejected

By Philip Webster, Political Staff

The Government yesterday rejected most of the recommendations of an all-party group of MPs greatly to widen the powers of the Ombudsman (Parliamentary Commissioner) to cover complaints about public service personnel matters and the Government's commercial activities.

It rejected proposals that the Ombudsman should be empowered to investigate complaints about recruitment to the Civil Service and diplomatic service and complaints from former public servants about their pensions.

However, in its response to a report from the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner, published last December, the Government promised to consider legislation to cover complaints by specialists recruited by the Overseas Development Administration.

In its report the select committee had argued that because the Government disposed of such large sums of money its position was unique, and if its purchasing policies were the subject of complaint they should be investigated, particularly if any government were to use the award of contracts as a political weapon.

But the Government said yesterday that Parliament's decision to exclude "contractual or other commercial transactions" from investigation remained sound.

It stood by evidence previously given to the committee. That has been that any change would place government departments at a commercial disadvantage, that departments are already subject to scrutiny, that any change would create an unjustifiable administrative burden, and that it could cause practical difficulties.

Mr Anthony Buck, Conservative MP for Colchester and chairman of the select committee, said last night he was disappointed that the Government had not accepted its main recommendations.

He said that the Ombudsman covered certain categories of public personnel and in one case involving senior army officers had discovered maladministration. If there had been a similar case relating to civil servants we would have been unable to uncover it.

Fourth report of the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (submitted by the Government) (Command 8274, Stationery Office, £5.30.)

END TO FLY MENACE SOUGHT

By Hugh Clayton, Agricultural Correspondent

Warble flies are almost extinct in Britain after three years of being dosed with chemicals, the Meat and Livestock Commission said yesterday. It appealed to the Government to enforce compulsory dosing by farmers to ensure that the insects do not make a comeback.

The commission, a statutory body dedicated to improving meat production, described the fly yesterday as "the mouthless menace that just over three years ago was costing Britain's livestock industry millions of pounds in lost production and damaged carcasses and hides".

The flies buzz round cattle in the summer and cause "galling" in which the animals run wildly with their tails high in the air. This leads to loss of milk and meat.

The flies lay eggs on the undersides of the cattle and the grubs burrow through the living animals and spend the winter near their throats. In the spring they burrow up to the animal's back and lie just under the surface in lumps called warbles.

They wriggle out in warm weather and later turn into flies.

Murder charge

A man was remanded in custody yesterday at Warrington, Cheshire, until Friday, accused of the murder on Sunday of Miss Lorraine Gandy, aged 19, a nurse, of Wheatcroft Close, Great Sankey, Warrington. Legal aid was granted to Joseph Francis Roman, aged 35, construction worker, of Southcroft, Tower Hill, Kirkby, Merseyside.

Royal pictures protest

Labour councillors yesterday criticized an Essex County Council plan to spend £800 on wedding photographs of the Prince of Wales and Lady Diana Spencer to be hung in schools, libraries and old people's homes. The council is facing a £17m cut in government aid because of alleged £24m overspending.

Postman stole parcels

David Edgar Bagleton, aged 38, a postman, of Ladbrokes Road, Sidcup, Kent, was jailed for five years at Croydon Crown Court yesterday for stealing parcels while working at Sidcup sorting office.

Orchestra's new director

Progress towards establishing a permanent orchestra in the East Midlands is being made by the English Sinfonia. It has appointed Mr Stuart Bedford as artistic director and plans to give 70 concerts this season, almost twice as many as in the last.

Finding sufficient extra public funds to pay players on a full-time basis remains a difficulty, but the Nottingham-based Sinfonia has a target of creating a permanent orchestra, about 40 strong, by the autumn of 1983.

Another freelance orchestra was announced in London yesterday. It is the London Philharmonic Fort Orchestra which will give its first concert at the Albert Hall on July 11. The concert will mix music from Carmen and Der Rosenkavalier with that of *My Fair Lady* and *West Side Story*. It will be conducted by the American John Covelli.

PREQUALIFICATION NOTICE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHERIYA HARBOUR WORKS

Prequalification to tender for the construction of a new harbour near Sirte in Libya.

The General Ports and Maritime Transport Administration intends to invite tenders for the construction of a new harbour near Sirte. The project will include:

- Breakwaters
- Excavation, dredging and provision of fill
- Sloping harbour walls
- Quay walls—blockwork
- Quay walls—counterfort
- Jetties and quays—suspended deck

Contractors who wish to be prequalified for inclusion in the list of invited tenderers should obtain the necessary form of application and questionnaire from:

Postford, Pavy & Partners, Albany House, or P.O. Box 12597, 94/98 Petty France, Dahra, Westminster, Tripoli, London, SW1H 9EJ, Libya.

The application and questionnaire should be completed and returned in accordance with the instructions by 22nd July, 1981.

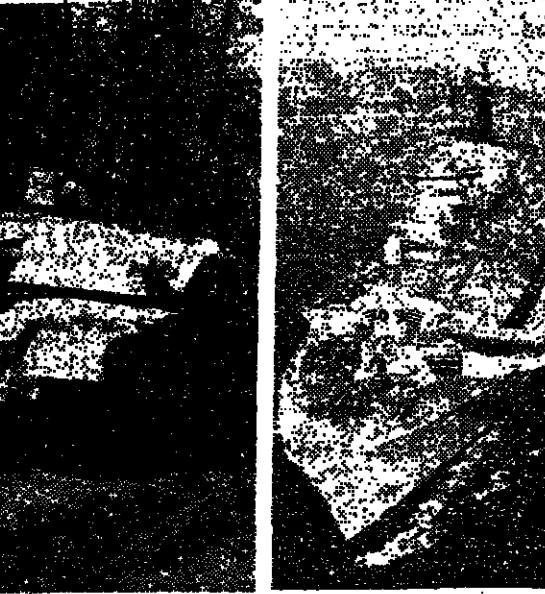
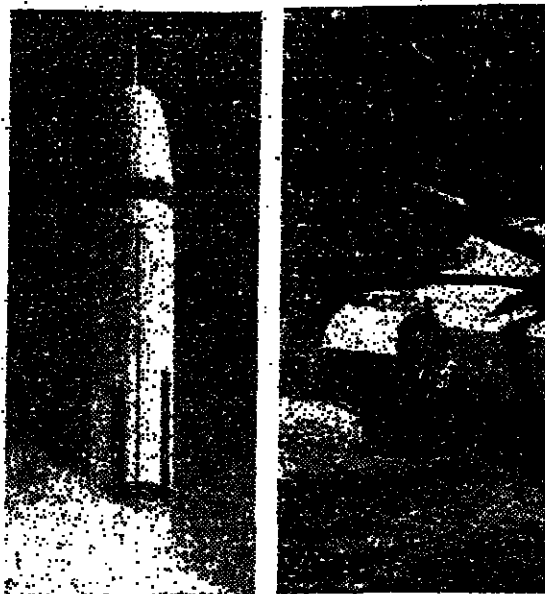
Anatomy of Britain's security: an analysis by The Times

The Nott alternative — a decade of defence we can afford



John Nott — no Prime Minister's axeman, he.

Today the Cabinet holds its crucial meeting on defence. The chiefs of staff have been to Downing Street to express grave concern. The Minister for the Navy has been sacked. The review by Mr John Nott, Defence Secretary, will reshape the pattern of defence for the next 10 years. What can Britain afford in view of the threat to Europe with one new Soviet SS 20 missile being installed every five days? The Times today presents a perspective to the arguments.



Three to keep, one to go: Tornado; Trident missile; Shtr-2 (forerunner of Challenger); carrier Invincible. She might be sold.

Review/Peter Hennessy

New strategy could bring an end to morale-sapping disputes

The seeds of the defence review were sown almost a year ago when the defence budget came under acute pressure with a substantial longer-term difficulty looming over the horizon.

The first was a demand for £500m cuts from the Treasury as part of its effort to reduce the general level of public spending. Second, a substantial breach of the 1980-81 cash limit on the defence budget, based on contractors submitted their bills to the Ministry of Defence faster than usual. At one stage it appeared that the ceiling had been exceeded by as much as £260m, although more recent estimates suggest the figure is nearer £150m.

Private anxieties inside the ministry were compounded in July, 1980, when the Government announced its intention to purchase the Trident strategic missile system at a cost of £5,000m over 15 years. Although ministers refused to acknowledge it (and still do), the long-term effect of Trident on the overall equipment programme was likely to be severe unless the economy quickened into an unexpected upturn in the early 1980s.

Mr Francis Pym, then Secretary of State for Defence, responded to the outflow of funds by imposing a moratorium on spending, obliging parts of the Ministry to remain in port and aircraft to stay grounded. He whittled down the Treasury's demands, threatening to resign twice, and the cut in the defence budget announced by the Chancellor of the Exchequer last November was £200m, which was £300m less than the Treasury originally sought.

Within two months Mr John Nott, who shares Mrs Margaret Thatcher's hard views on political economy, was promoted from the Department of Trade to replace him.

Mr Nott denied in an interview with *The Times* last month that the Prime Minister had given him an axeman's brief, but added that he was reconciled to nobody believing him, even though it was the truth.

The making of the Nott review, and an indication of how the British defence machine reaches its strategic budgetary decisions, is best illustrated by a chronology starting on January 12, the day he arrived at his desk in the ministry.

January. Mr Nott convened a series of meetings and seminars to brief himself on his new department, which he said later, he was determined to run rather than allowing it to run him.

He decided to devote virtually all his energy to a 10-year forward look at the core of the defence programme with the

aim of matching commitments to resources, avoiding annual crises and morale-sapping spending moratoria in the future. He also planned to carve out from the reduced budget a contingency fund for himself and his successors to spend on new projects.

At the outset, Mr Nott examined the Trident decision, was convinced of its indispensability and made it clear in the ministry that it was a sacrosanct commitment beyond the scope of the defence review.

He was briefed by Sir Frank Cooper, his permanent secretary and a formidable Whitehall heavyweight, about impending pressures on the budget. Sir Frank chairs the ministry's Financial Planning and Management Group, which includes in its membership the four service chiefs and Sir David Cardwell, head of the Procurement Executive, the ministry's equipment supply organisation.

The group's 10-year forward look, as part of its annual updating of the long-term costings of defence, programmes, was the vehicle upon which the review was determined to build its review.

In addition to Sir Frank, with whom he has a close working relationship, Mr Nott also had individual meetings with the Service chiefs.

By the end of the month, Mr Nott had circulated a minute to his military and civilian advisers, to a battery of defence secretaries concerned with policy making for the three services and the Procurement Executive, outlining the parameters of his review. He said there were to be no sacred cows, except Trident. Replies were to be submitted to him personally listing their priorities for the coming decade.

February.

The Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force boards considered the Secretary of State's guidelines. Replies trickled in to Mr Nott's office. He was not satisfied. Most parts of the defence machine had treated it as an exercise in damage limitation, paring the margins of their programmes and no more.

In late February, revised long-term costings showed a projected gap of about £500m for the financial year 1982-83 between commitments and funds budgeted.

March.

After discussion with his civilian advisers (who were proving to be the dominant influence upon him) and with the chiefs on whose views he placed less weight, Mr Nott instructed the service boards and defence secretaries to try again. They were told to construct detailed models showing "from the bottom up"

what equipment they considered vital to have in the early 1990s, given a range of possible budgets.

By mid-March, the Admiralty Board had become seriously alarmed at the "worst-case" options for its budget, which, if adopted, would drastically reduce the size of its surface fleet, altering radically the Royal Navy's anti-submarine capability in the eastern Atlantic. Regular meetings between Mr Nott and Mr Keith Speed, the Under-Secretary for the Navy, became increasingly heated.

April.

As the "from the bottom up" models for 1991 reached him, Mr Nott expressed greater satisfaction than after the first round. He continued to raise questions about specific programmes.

The ministry's annual defence White Paper, published on April 15, gave the clearest hint so far of what was to come in a preamble signed by Mr Nott. Its message was that the weapons platforms—ships, aircraft, vehicles—had become so costly and sophisticated that they were absorbing money needed for the all-important armaments they were meant to carry.

May.

The ministry's internal debate was blown wide open on May 15 in a speech by Mr Speed. On May 19, the Prime Minister dismissed him after a weekend of heated press speculation about the likely savagery of the cuts, three quarters of which were expected to fall on the Royal Navy.

Next day, Mr Nott confronted backbench critics in his own party while opening the debate on the defence White Paper. At a seminar in the St Ermin's Hotel, London, on May 28, Mr Speed gave warning of crisis in the 1980s and cataclysm in the 1990s if some of the cuts contemplated by the ministry were implemented.

Next day the Prime Minister abolished individual ministerial portfolios for the services, creating the new post of Minister for Armed Forces.

June.

On June 3, the chiefs exercised their traditional right of putting their case to the Prime Minister in person. At a meeting of the Cabinet's Overseas and Defence Committee in 10 Downing Street on June 8, Mr Nott presented a paper outlining his models for the 1990s, indicating to his colleagues the options he preferred. No senior minister spoke up to save the Royal Navy from radical surgery.

The senior service began to resign itself to its fate. As one black comedian on the naval side commented: "What we need now and quickly is a small colonial war requiring a lot of ships."

Background/Henry Stanhope

A long succession of agonising reappraisals

A priority during the Defence Review has been to make room for the £6,000m Trident missile programme in defence budgets during the next 10 to 15 years. It is not the first time that expensive new equipment has forced existing programmes to be restructured. Five major defence reviews have already been held since the Second World War and in the immediate post-war period and between 1964 and 1970 scrutiny of defence spending was almost continuous.

The basic problem, that of making both ends meet at a time of national diminishing resources, must seem familiar to Lord Shinwell who was Secretary of State for War during the defence review in 1945. Then, in the year which saw the formation of Nato and the devaluation of the pound, the strength of the forces stood at 785,000 after falling from 41 million at the end of the war. The defence share of Britain's Gross National Product (GNP) had fallen to seven per cent from 20 per cent in 1946. But the country was still spending more than the other European allies put together and proportionately more than the United States.

Equipment costs had risen by more than 50 per cent since 1945 when you could still buy a rifle for £7 11s 3d. But better equipment had to be found in exchange for fewer men. So navy and air force budgets were raised while that of the labour-intensive army fell.

It was left to a Conservative government, however, in the aftermath of the Suez debacle, to carry out the surgery which the forces needed to adjust to a post-war world. The error made by Duncan Sandys who conducted the 1957-58 Defence Review however was that he cut off the wrong leg. In 1957 Britain still had 720,000 men under arms, over a third of them conscripts. But although the country was devoting 84 per cent of GNP to defence, the forces were badly equipped and over-committed.

The Sandys solution was to shift the emphasis away from large expensive overseas garrisons to smaller, all-regular, mobile forces, which, with the nuclear deterrent, provided by the V-bombers and later Blue Streak, would guarantee Britain's integrity. National Service would end in five years' time, reducing the strength of the forces by 270,000. The Army lost more than a third, and the Navy a fifth of its manpower.

The bringing together of the three service departments under one Ministry of Defence coincided with the appointment of a new Labour Secretary of State in 1964, Mr Denis Healey. Mr Healey is credited with conducting two defence reviews during his six momentous years at the Ministry. But it now seems like one long process of change as successive economic crises forced the Government's attention on spending to be ever more drastic.

Between 1964 and 1966 Mr Healey cancelled in turn the option on a fifth Polaris submarine, the P1154 and TSR-2 aircraft and finally the Navy's cherished carrier to replace the Ark Royal. The main defence responsibilities, however, support for Nato in Europe, the strategic deterrent and the post-imperial role outside Europe, remain more or less untouched.

Further economic crises however, including the 1967 devaluation of sterling, forced the Government to "come to terms" with our role in the world—as Harold Wilson put it. It was the East of Suez responsibility which won the Government announced its intention to withdraw first from Singapore and Malaysia and then the Gulf. In the quarter of a century that had elapsed since the war when Labour left office in 1970 Britain had not only lost an Empire as Dean Acheson had said, but had started to find a role.

That role was to be in Europe as a member of Nato. But first there was a four-year pause while the Heath government, under Lord Carrington as Defence Secretary, tried to give the services "a period" of stability by doing nothing very much. The most significant development of these years was the decision of the Government to let the Healey decisions go through more or less unhindered, despite criticism while the Conservatives were in opposition.

It was left to the next Labour government to tidy up the odds and ends. The 1974-75 Defence Review, the last to be conducted before this present one, had as its purpose the reduction of the defence budget by several hundred million pounds over a period and an equivalent drop in the percentage of GNP devoted to defence from about 53 to about 41 per cent—which was nearer to the figure in the other major European allies.

The conclusions which were revealed in the 1975 White Paper were that the few remaining troops in Singapore should be withdrawn along with the RAF contingent on the Indian Ocean staging post on Gan. There would be reductions in Hongkong and Cyprus, withdrawal from Malta and a reduction in the reinforcement potential for Nato's flanks—particularly the southern. There were also manpower cuts for all three services, particularly the Army—although about half of these had later to be restored after a restructuring operation in the British Army of the Rhine caused more problems than ever.

From more than 4,600,000 in June, 1945, the forces had shrunk to a size of only 333,000 at the start of this year—less than the strength of the Royal Navy alone, the smallest of the services at the end of the war. Since 1957, before Duncan Sandys's famous White Paper, the Navy had seen its fleet reduced by two-thirds and the

Army's manpower had been halved by the ending of conscription. As for the RAF, it still blamed Mr Sandys for the parlous state of Britain's air defences.

The success of Government in placing defence spending on an even keel by means of a "review" has been short lived. A succession of short-term cuts in planned spending followed the 1974-75 review. Last year the Cabinet ordered a £200m reduction in the budget in spite of its philosophical commitment to a strong defence policy—and only so-called kamikaze action by Mr Pym, the then Defence Secretary, prevented the cut from being deeper.

But one sacred cow has emerged unscathed from the past 20 years. That is the nuclear deterrent.

During 1970-74, the Heath Government decided on a £1,000m improvement to the Polaris warhead. Codenamed Chevaline, the programme was completed by the 1974-75 Labour administration, and was not fully disclosed until early 1980—perhaps because many experts regarded it as a waste of money.

Now the present Government has opted for the Trident missile system to succeed Polaris in the 1990s. Once more a decision on the deterrent has become sacrosanct. But would a more radical Labour administration elected in 1984 regard it so?

Budget/David Blake

£4.50 a week from every one of us

The defence of Britain is a big and costly business. This year the Government is expected to pay out £12,274m on defence, making it the largest programme after social security, health, education and child pay £4.50 a week for the upkeep of our defensive system.

The cost is growing. Defence has been one of the few growth areas in public spending over the past five years. Total public spending this year is expected to be about £104,000m. After allowing for inflation, it is about £5,000m less than total spending in 1975-76. But defence spending this year will be about £4,000m more than it was in 1975-76, even after the effects of price rises are removed.

Not merely big money is involved. There are lots of jobs too. The armed forces employ 322,000 people directly and another 246,000 in various civilian occupations such as naval dockyards.

The jobs do not stop there. No one knows just how many jobs in the private sector depend on the £5,500m which will be spent on buying goods this year.

Anything which accounts for such a big chunk of spending, (about an eighth of the total) might be expected to be

high on the target list for a Government committed to spending less. But in fact, the Government is committed not simply to avoiding cuts in defence spending; it has promised to let it grow in real terms by 3 per cent a year.

The battles which have raged Whitehall over the past 18 months have not been about what it means and whether the Defence Ministry ought to be ruled by the same sort of cash controls which have been applied to other public spending.

The battle is symbolised by the terse phrases of this year's public spending White Paper. Although it is theoretically all the major spending programmes, defence gives no details of its activities in the general public spending White Paper. It receives two pages, published on Budget Day. Alone of all the major spending programmes, defence gives no details of its activities in the general public spending White Paper. It receives two pages, published on Budget Day. Alone of all the major spending programmes, defence gives no details of its activities in the general public spending White Paper. It receives two pages, published on Budget Day.

But the public spending document does give totals and it does draw attention to the key fact of defence spending rising in cash terms, that on the best estimates available it was £130m more than it was supposed to be, even if the effects of inflation are removed.

In the Treasury's terms, the cuts, made last autumn, were too little too late. Instead of saving by about 3 per cent in 1980-81, the volume of spending went up 5 per cent over the previous year, at least according to the Government.

But it is doubtful about what those definitions actually mean. The Treasury's figures, which are the basis of the Treasury and Defence Department. For under a system introduced under the Labour government and given greater importance under the Conservatives, public spending plans are no longer done solely in the "funny money" of survey prices, which try to convert everything into some standardised system of volume.

Planning is done in cash as well, which is the case amount available for each programme. That system has been systematically broken in the defence estimates.

About half of all defence spending was excluded from the system in any case. Facing with a pledge to honour the system of Armed Services Pay Reviews, the Government exempted service pay from the normal cash limit system last year. The limit was £130m more than it was supposed to be, even if the effects of inflation are removed.

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Commitments/David Spanier

Where duty takes the British serviceman

The days when British influence was reflected in large parts of the world are being marked in red here since past. The very phrase "Gunsboat diplomacy" has become an anachronism. In the modern world, British foreign policy works through influence and persuasion, and every effort has been made to reduce the numbers of troops around the globe.

The result is that apart from Nato, which is of course the fundamental alliance which guarantees Britain's security, there are very few British soldiers abroad, even in those areas which can still be marked in red.

Nato is a defensive alliance but curiously enough it does not commit Britain to assign troops to it. That comes under the Western European Union (WEU), which is the custodian of the balance of European forces.

The WEU treaty was a key part of a highly sensitive political compromise of the 1950s. It was designed to permit the rearming of West Germany and its entry into Nato. Of the seven signatories of the modified Brussels Treaty of 1954 (Belgium, France, West Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands and the United Kingdom) only Britain accepted an obligation to maintain forces on the mainland of Europe.

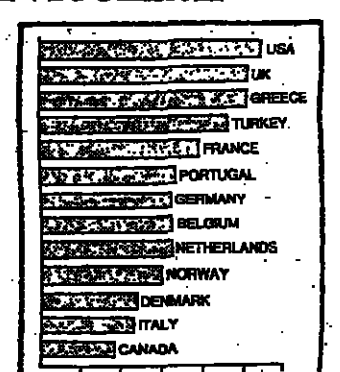
The total at the time was 77,000 men. Then in February 1957 Britain sought to reduce the level of its forces in Europe as part of the cost saving associated with the running down of national service. It was agreed that the total was to be reduced to 63,500. Again in December 1957, Britain proposed a further reduction, and the WEU Council agreed to a further 8,500 men being withdrawn.

This was expressed as representing "four divisions and the Second Tactical Airforce, or such other forces as the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, regarded as having equivalent fighting capacity."

The present level of BAOR forces is about 57,000, although 1957 Britain sought to reduce the level of its forces in Europe as part of the cost saving associated with the running down of national service. It was agreed that the total was to be reduced to 63,500. Again in December 1957, Britain proposed a further reduction, and the WEU Council agreed to a further 8,500 men being withdrawn.

The latest report to the Assembly of WEU by the Committee on Defence Questions and Armaments gives Britain the thumbs up on its military contributions. Noting that the units in Northern Ireland would be speedily returned to their duty stations in an emergency affecting Nato, the Committee concluded that the average number of British forces stationed in Germany was probably about 500 men short, not important in itself.

Elsewhere around the globe,



1980 Defence expenditure as a percentage of gross domestic product. The true cost of defence in other European countries is understated because they rely on low-paid conscript armies.

British forces are few and far between, and the opportunity for making significant savings in manpower correspondingly small. British troops are stationed in the Channel Islands, Brunei, Hongkong, the sovereign bases in Cyprus and Diego Garcia.

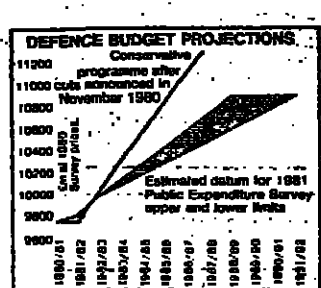
In dependent territories, Britain has a commitment to maintain their defence. Clearly, the contingent of 40 marines in the Falklands, however gallant, is not stationed there to repulse an Argentinian invasion. It is more an earnest of Britain's sense of obligation, though the marines are useful in dealing with a minor emergency, such as a buncannery aircraft landing on the islands to assert Argentinian claims.

In Diego Garcia, which Mauritius has ceded to Britain for use as a base, there is a detachment of 25 naval personnel. The United States runs the airstrip.

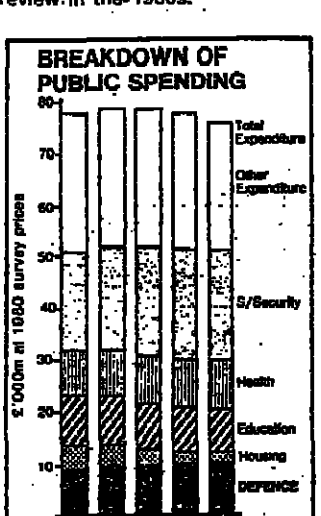
Belize is a different story. There are about 1,600 men all told in the garrison, plus four RAF Harriers, with the specific purpose of deterring an attack by Guatemala. This has been, however, a serious threat. But with the recent agreement under which Guatemala accepted giving up its territorial claims in return for various other benefits, there is now a very good prospect of Belize proceeding to independence in an orderly way this year.

In that case, the British military back-up would naturally come to an end, though not perhaps straight away. The additional cost of having forces in Belize is put at £3.5m out of a total of about £25m a year. Rather than specifying a particular level of forces or equipment, Britain's allies expect Britain to do its duty as an ally. On the nuclear issue, it would appear that considerable satisfaction has been felt in Bonn, and also Washington, that France is not the only nuclear power in Europe. The West Germans went on of their way to welcome the Trident decision.

The way the cake is cut — who gets what and how much it costs



The cuts agreed by the Cabinet today will fall somewhere inside the "envelope" depicted by the shaded area on the graph. The closer the spending path of the Government's new look defence programme corresponds to the lower line, the greater the chance of avoiding another defence review in the 1980s.



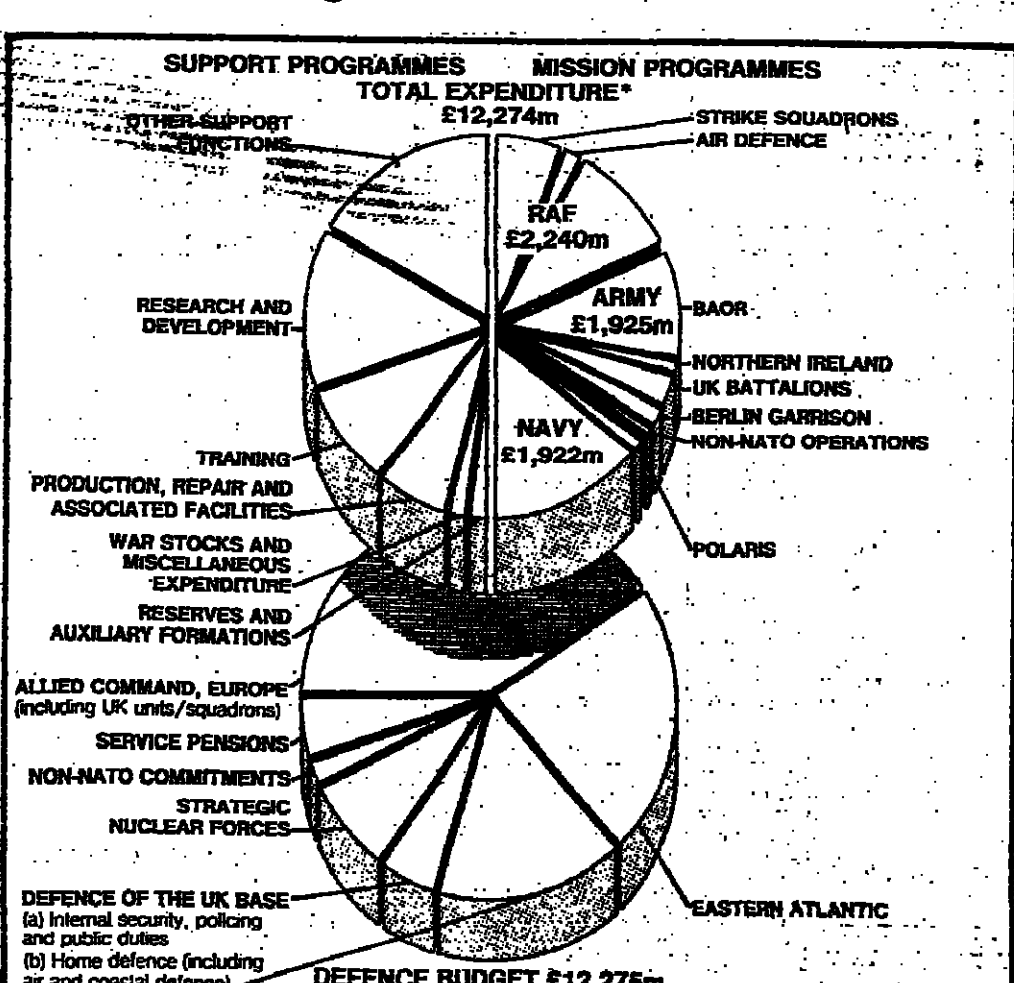
The 1981-2 defence budget stands at £12,274m. An analysis shows that the largest single slice, £2,240m (18.2 per cent) goes to the RAF, more than the £1,925m for the Army and the £1,922m for the Navy.

The Army takes 15.7 per cent, £1,902m of that going to keep the British Army's main base (BAOR) and £552m being for forces in Britain, including Northern Ireland.

The Royal Navy swallows 13.6 per cent of the £12,274m, the biggest portion going to help the surface fleet of frigates and destroyers keep aloft. The country's strategic deterrent force of four Polaris submarines is absorbing only £269m, a modest 2.2 per cent of the budget—although five years ago the percentage was still smaller at 1.3.

Procurement of the Trident missile system to replace Polaris will take only 3 per cent on average between 1980 and 1995.

An unofficial but well respected analysis by Professor David Greenwood, the finance economist of Aberdeen University, shows that if the whole budget is divided between commitments, some 23 per cent is now being spent on helping Nato defend the Eastern Atlantic, 41 per cent on the Army and RAF forces dedicated to Allied Command Europe and 22 per cent on protecting the United Kingdom. According to this analysis some seven per cent is spent in respect of the deterrent.



Reagan patches up quarrel with the Speaker

From David Cross, Washington, June 17

President Reagan decided today that his honeymoon with Congress must not be spoiled by a single, careless off-the-cuff remark about Mr. Thomas O'Neill, the Democratic speaker of the House of Representatives.

During yesterday's presidential press conference here—his first since the attempt on his life at the end of March—Mr. Reagan accused Mr. O'Neill of indulging in sheer demagoguery when he suggested that the Administration's three-year tax programme would benefit the rich more than the poor.

This was a rejoinder from Mr. O'Neill that the President's honeymoon with Congress appeared to be over.

But after what he described as an exceptionally friendly telephone call from Mr. Reagan today, Mr. O'Neill told reporters that they were still good friends. "Politics is politics," Mr. O'Neill said. "We may disagree during the day but come 6 pm we become friends."

During his press conference today, Mr. Reagan made it clear that he was stepping up pressure on Democrats in the lower house to approve the tax reductions and other parts of his economic programme, including big spending cuts. The Democrats, who have a majority in the House, are beginning to muster opposition to the budget cuts in particular.

In his initial response to Mr. Reagan's comments the Speaker issued a statement to reporters, reiterating his original claim that the Administration's economic programme consisted of a rich man's tax cut while the budget cuts fell squarely on the shoulders of the working poor.

For good measure, he added that the White House had been acting in a dictatorial way in its recent treatment of Congress.

Mr. O'Neill said he would never accuse the President, whoever he was, of being a demagogue because he had too much respect for the institution of the presidency. "I assume that in the future he would have the same feeling for the speakership."

As is often the case with presidential press conferences, Mr. Reagan touched on many themes during his 35-minute

meeting. He handled all questions in his usual adroit and friendly manner, thereby showing the world through the medium of television that he was now fully recovered from his bullet wounds.

He had nothing new to say, except on his economic programme. He dispensed Moscow again with an attack on the Soviet system. Communism was a sad, bizarre chapter in human history and recent events there and in Poland showed that the Soviet philosophy was an aberration. It was the only way of living for human beings.

Responding to questions on the recent attack by the Israelis on an Iraqi nuclear reactor, he said he had considerable sympathy for the Iraqis and that they had reason to concern in view of the past history of Iraq, which had never signed a ceasefire or recognized Israel as a nation.

The President's handling of the press conference represented a change from previous practice. During the Carter administration there was a free-for-all, in which the top reporters from television and the newspapers waved and shouted to attract the President's attention.

Shortly after he took office Mr. Reagan tried to change the system by drawing the names of questioners from a jar for jolly beans (his favourite sweets). This was unpopular, because many of the best-known television reporters were unable to ask questions and it was impossible to follow up questions.

The new system worked well. Questioning was conducted in an orderly manner and the President made sure that reporters sitting near the back of the room were also given a chance.

The President looked relaxed throughout the press conference and gave a cheery wave at the end to the crowd of reporters and cameramen who were crammed into the small, sweltering room where the conference was held.

Asked how he felt after the assassination attempt, he replied: "I have recovered. I feel fine. If I'm a medical miracle, I'm a happy one."

Big missile debate by German Protestants

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, June 17

The biggest and probably the most critical debate about nuclear missiles has opened in Hamburg at the biennial congress of the West German Protestant Church.

For four days 118,000 people, many of them young and many of pacifist views, will take part in this religious gathering which, under the motto: "Be not afraid," is devoted partly to the subject of peace. The 1,200 events include services, Bible meetings, discussions, entertainments and debates about defence, disarmament, missiles and the fear that Germany may become the scene of a nuclear holocaust.

Sixty-five Protestant pacifist groups have coined the counter-motto: "Be ye afraid of nuclear death threatens us all", and called a demonstration for Saturday. They hope it will be the biggest since the anti-nuclear protests of the 1950s, with about 50,000 people expected to take part.

So seriously is the congress being taken in Bonn, that Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, who was not originally invited, has arranged to defend his policies in a televised question-and-answer session in a Hamburg church tomorrow night and again in a discussion on Friday.

Christians, mostly Protestants but a number of Roman Catholics as well, make up one of the most active groups in the rapidly growing West German pacifist movement.

War of words over arms control Moscow's credibility problem

From Michael Biagon, Moscow, June 17

Over the past week the Russians have been doing their best to impress on a large number of influential Western statesmen that Moscow is serious about arms control and eager to start talks without delay.

As Nato presses ahead with plans to deploy new American missiles in Western Europe, the Russians are becoming increasingly anxious to head off what they regard as an exceptionally dangerous threat to their security.

But the shadow of Poland now looms large. Not only have Western governments made it clear that any Soviet intervention would scuttle the prospect for talks, but Western lobbyists for strategic arms limitation have admitted that public opinion in Europe and America would become deaf to the need for a dialogue with the Russians.

Moscow appears therefore to be in a dilemma. On the one hand, the Kremlin wants to show, especially to the Europeans, that the Soviet Union is ready to go to the negotiating table without any preconditions. On the other hand, it seems already to be anticipating failure—perhaps because of decisions already taken here over Poland—by refusing to recognize the West's declared readiness to talk as genuine.

The Soviet press has called the recent Nato offer a smoke-screen to conceal the alliance's rearmament plans. President Brezhnev said last week that Americans had taken no real steps to get talks going. And Mr. Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, told Mr. Charles-Ferdinand Nothomb, his Belgian counterpart, earlier this week that in spite of "vague

talk in 'some capitals' about arms talks, no one had lifted a finger there to get the talks going.

Mr. Gromyko said his country was ready for "honest" talks based on equal security and reciprocal interests. He told Mr. Nothomb that Mr. Brezhnev's proposal for a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe was intended to create favourable conditions for such talks.

The Soviet leadership knows, however, that such a moratorium, which the West says would leave the Russians with a big nuclear advantage, is unacceptable to Nato.

The point was made again privately by the Foreign Commission, a group of experienced politicians, including Mr. Cyrus Vance, the former American Secretary of State, and Dr. David Owen, the former Foreign Secretary, who met here last weekend to reaffirm their faith in arms control.

The Russians treated this independent body with respect. President Brezhnev saw Mr. Olof Palme, the Commission's chairman, and Mr. Gromyko saw Mr. Vance and Dr. Owen. Soviet military experts briefed the commission on the SS20 programme and went into details.

The Russians wanted to show that the Soviet position coincided with the views of "sober-minded" Western statesmen. They also hoped that these views would carry weight in Washington precisely because the commission members are not identified with left-wing, unilateral disarmers.

There was an attempt to fudge the moratorium issue. Mr. Georgy Arbatov, the head of

the Institute for the United States and Canada, maintained at a press conference that the moratorium was a unilateral good-will gesture as it actually applied only to the Soviet side—an interpretation challenged by reference to the text of Mr. Brezhnev's original proposal.

Later Mr. Vance said it put a "new gloss" on the whole idea. Mr. Gromyko, however, took a tougher line on Monday, when he blamed the West for stubbornly rejecting the moratorium. He said the West was using false data about the European nuclear balance, while Washington deliberately brushed aside anything that stood in the way of the new weapons' deployment.

□ Brussels: The United States and its Nato allies today made good progress in their preparations for the opening of negotiations between America and the Soviet Union by the end of the year on limiting long-range nuclear missiles based in Europe.

American officials said after the discussions, which will be resumed on August 3, that it was agreed that Nato should seek equal and verifiable global limitation on United States and Soviet systems at the lowest possible level.

Elaborating on this objective, the officials said that the West would insist on equal limits, equal ceilings and equal rights regarding the deployment of nuclear forces in Europe.

European sources expressed great satisfaction with today's meeting, which appears to have removed any lingering doubts in Europe that America is serious about negotiating arms limits with the Soviet Union.

Saharan rivals come to blows at the OAU

From Michael Kuper, Nairobi, June 17

Diplomatic activities at the foreign ministers' meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) were enlivened here today when a fight broke out between two Moroccan government officials and a representative of the Polisario Front insurgent organization in the lobby of the Kenyatta Conference Centre.

Delegates and observers scattered as the three men exchanged blows before being seized and led away by Kenyan security officials. They were released half an hour later.

The incident illustrated the level of tension between the two sides in the struggle for control of the disputed western Sahara. The Polisario Front, backed by Algeria and Libya, is attempting to wrest the territory from the control of Morocco, which took over the administration when Spain withdrew in 1975.

The OAU is deeply divided over the issue. The Polisario official was apparently distributing leaflets attacking King Hassan of Morocco when the fight broke out. The Moroccan diplomats were identified as Mr. Hassan Alauri, Chief of Cabinet in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Mr. Yusuf Amrani, an aide in the Ministry of Cooperation.

The leaflets accused King Hassan of being a colonialist. The more formal proceedings of the day followed the presentation to the council of ministers of the report of the organization's liberation committee. This contained a scathing attack on the diplomatic activities of the Western contact group on Namibia (South-West Africa).

The United States, Britain



King Hassan II. Attacked in Polisario leaflet.

and France were strongly condemned for what was described as their collusion with South Africa. The document rejected what it described as the "sister schemes" by certain members of the so-called Western contact group, which it said were aimed at forcing the international community to abandon the agreed plan for the independence of Namibia contained in the United Nations Security Council resolution 435.

The committee's report, which gained the unanimous approval of the council of ministers, expressed profound dismay at what it regarded as the demonstrated unwillingness of the contact group to carry on with implementing the United Nations plan and denounced what it called the "emerging unholy alliance between Pretoria and Washington."

Lord Carrington outlines Britain's EEC objectives

By Hugh Noyes, Parliamentary Correspondent, Westminster

In a defence yesterday of the EEC and of Britain's role in its affairs, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will have left our partners in no doubt that they must expect an active six months during his presidency of the Council of Ministers, starting on July 1.

Outlining what he hopes to achieve, Lord Carrington denounced Labour Party leaders and in particular Mr. Denis Healey, Opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, for turning their backs on politics pursued when in office and for proposing to withdraw from the Community.

He would have thought that after the referendum, even Mr. Wedgwood Benn would have accepted that the decision of the British people was for membership.

Speaking during a debate in the House of Lords on the advantages of EEC membership, Lord Carrington said he was saddened to see that Mr. Healey had been the last to attempt this feat of logical contortionism. "He should know better and of course, he does know better."

Mr. Healey was merely subscribing to the myth that the Community undermined the sovereignty of the British Parliament when he spoke of restoring the sovereignty of Britain from control by the EEC, Lord Carrington said.

After asserting that the government remained firmly committed to making a success of membership and outlining the advantages to this country,

Lord Carrington accepted that not all criticisms were misdirected. Setting out some of the areas where changes were urgently needed, the Foreign Secretary told the House that the first on his list was the common agricultural policy.

It was clearly wrong, he said, to spend two-thirds of the Community budget on agriculture to produce wasteful surpluses. The Government wanted to see this problem tackled during the discussions on the restructuring of the Community budget.

Lord Carrington also made clear that during the British presidency he would be applying much pressure to achieve a permanent solution to the intolerable situation for this country whereby West Germany and Britain financed the budget while richer countries than ourselves were major net beneficiaries. A successful conclusion must be brought about this year, which would be fair to all member states, he said.

New Community policies would have to be considered to shift resources into other areas such as regional and industrial development and to restrain workers to meet the changing pattern of industry.

Other areas in which he wanted to see progress during the next six months were on the common fisheries policy, the freer provision of services, such as insurance, greater liberalization of air fares and further easing of the barriers to free movement and employment within the Community.

answer to Mrs. Thatcher's questions about the budgetary Justice for Britain. [The agreement the Prime Minister secured last year over Britain's contributions ends in 1982.]

Members of the Commission leave no doubt about their strategy. First, like most MEPs, they want to keep the CAP as the centrepiece of Community policy, but to cut its cost to allow for new policies. In the short term, Commission and Parliament have no other option, because the British and West German governments refuse to consider increasing the level of VAT to give the Community a larger income.

Secondly, again like most MEPs, members of the Commission want more resources for the EEC. If they cannot get more than one per cent of VAT, then they want eventually to have a new source of revenue. A slice of national income tax or company tax?

There is another important point as the parliamentary speeches made clear. No new financial mechanism to satisfy Mrs. Thatcher's demands can be limited to one special case. With the entry of Greece to the Community and Portugal and Spain standing impatiently in the wings, it is not only the British Government that wants to be reassured that there will be a just budget settlement.

Strasbourg prepares for a British presidency

From David Wood, Strasbourg, June 17

European MPs are using this week's plenary session in Strasbourg to prepare for Britain's presidency of the Council of Ministers which starts on July 1.

Most of the main reports and debates are connected with Mrs. Thatcher's campaign for permanent budgetary arrangements.

Mr. Douglas Hurd, Minister of State, at the Foreign Office, was welcomed today to start picking up the threads of policy and strategy that will be left behind by the Netherlands on June 30. He will return to London to report that European parliamentary opinion is turning in Britain's favour and that Lord Carrington's first appearance in Strasbourg raises high expectations.

Today two reports from influential parliamentary committees on the budgetary issues raised by Mrs. Thatcher had a good reception, not least from M. Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, and two of his Commissioners.

Earlier, the Parliament carried by a large majority than expected a report proposing reforms of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), presented by Sir Henry Plumb, former president of the National Farmers' Union.

A year ago the commission was told by the Council of Ministers to find a permanent



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Appeals fail to halt Israeli election violence

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, June 17

Increased police activity and repeated appeals for restraint from the leaders of the main Israeli political parties have so far failed to prevent the most violent election campaign in recent years.

Among the latest incidents was the burning of a car belonging to a Labour Party campaigner in Jerusalem and the daubing of the remains with the word "Traitor". This was an apparent reference to recent opposition criticism of the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

On a communal farm in the south of Israel, two youths threatened a woman of 72 who had appeared in a television advertisement on behalf of the Labour Party. They wanted her to take part in any further such advertising and smashed windows in her home.

Earlier, the Labour Party election offices in Givat Shmuel were burnt out in the middle of the night. In the port city of Haifa, the Labour Party headquarters had to be evacuated after a bomb warning given by telephone.

Although most of the attacks continue to be against the Labour Party, Mr. David Shalom, a prominent supporter of the ruling right-wing Likud coalition, last night spoke at an election rally protected by a special police guard after receiving a death threat.

Today, the Likud announced that it had hired a team of private detectives whose job would be to provide violence to support its claim that the wave of anti-Labour violence is being organized by agents provocateurs.

In a series of hard-hitting advertisements, the opposition is trying to win the electoral capital out of the recent unruly disruptions of its meetings. Two photographs show ugly

scenes of government supporters on the rampage, while the caption reads: "This time, you really have to choose between Beginism and enlightened government".

Commenting on the campaign, Mr. Moshe Dayan, the leader of the newly-formed Talem Party, criticized the extreme language used on the hustings by both Mr. Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister, and his Labour opponents.

As well as contributing to the violence of the people, the violence of the people is contributing to the violence of the people. The police are monitoring a countrywide operation to restore order in the closing two weeks of the campaign. They discovered that many of the worst incidents have been planned. They lay the blame on what they term "low-level party operatives".

Confirmation of the widespread belief among political commentators that the Israeli raid will have boosted Mr. Begin's reelection chances came in the first poll conducted since the Osirak reactor was destroyed.

Published by the Hebrew newspaper, *Ma'ariv* today's poll showed the Likud coalition with 38 per cent of the votes, compared with 34 per cent in the same poll last month. The Labour Party remained unchanged in second place with 33 per cent.

Part of the success of the Government's campaign has been attributed to its expansionist settlement policy in the occupied territories. Today, it was announced that 800 new housing units would be built inside the settlements already existing in the West Bank. The move will eventually increase the number of Jews living there by 3,000.

Pressure on Mitterrand to soften condemnation

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, June 17

President Mitterrand is believed to have come under pressure from Jerusalem to tone down or qualify the terms of the French Government's strong condemnation of the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor.

The condemnation, issued by M. Pierre Mauroy, the Prime Minister, and M. Claude Cheysson, the Minister for External Affairs, early last week, was reiterated on Monday by M. Jacques Legrand, the French permanent representative at the Security Council.

It has caused sharp disappointment both in the Jewish community in France and in Israel especially the demand for reparations.

The *Renouveau Juif*, the organization of French Jews which had called for a vote against President Giscard d'Estaing in the presidential elections, emphasized in a statement yesterday that it could not remain silent in the face of the Government's diplomatic initiative at the Security Council.

"Such an initiative runs the risk of being interpreted as providing a surety for the acknowledged responsibilities of the previous government," the statement said. "It is necessary to recall that the Iraqi nuclear contract was never submitted

to Parliament for ratification. This justifies all the fears arising from it." The *Renouveau Juif* demanded "another policy for France in the Middle East."

Its demand is unlikely to be satisfied, although the *Renouveau Juif* professes to ignore it. French policy in the Middle East has undergone a difference of style and of tone, but not of substance.

President Mitterrand has publicly acknowledged, most recently last Saturday when he received King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, the claims of the Palestinians to a homeland, even to a state, while insisting on the need for a permanent friendship with Israel, and its right to security within safe, recognized and guaranteed frontiers.

The Israeli ambassador was "asked" and not "summoned" to the Quai d'Orsay to explain the raid. The President, by contrast with his predecessor, has always clearly approved the Camp David agreements.

He cannot, however, afford to antagonize the Arab states, for obvious reasons of economic common sense, any more than he can respond to the demand of the Israeli Government, believed to have been put forward through diplomatic channels, that the 1975 nuclear agreement with Iraq should simply be cancelled.

£736,000 FOR HIJACK VICTIMS

Tel Aviv, June 17. — Air France has agreed to pay £736,000 to Israeli survivors and the heirs of the four people killed in the 1972 hijacking of an airliner in Uganda, Israeli army radio said today.

The agreement covers claims of 67 former hostages and heirs of the four civilians who died when Israel's air force stormed the Entebbe airport in a rescue operation.

The settlement was reached on May 14, according to the Jerusalem Post newspaper, after five years of litigation, in which the former hostages said tighter Air France security could have prevented the hijacking. —AP.

Teenage delinquents are people too

Who can a teenager turn to if his parents seem to turn away? What does a teenager do if no-one can help him? These are the questions that the new book, *Teenage Delinquents are People Too*, asks. It is a book for teenagers, written by a teenager, and it is a book that every teenager should read.

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Sino-American Ascot

Police are accused over action in Soweto

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, June 17

Coloured (mixed race) and black leaders today accused the police of being excessively brutal and stupid in their handling of protest demonstrations by coloured students and the tear gas attack yesterday in Soweto on people leaving a church service.

Mr. M. Mathabathe, a member of the Soweto Committee of Ten civil groups, said police action was making black people angrier. "They cannot tolerate it any further."

The services yesterday, to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the unrest, had ended so peacefully and would have ended so if the police had not acted stupidly, he said.

In Pretoria, Coloured leaders handed Mr. Louis Le Grange, Minister of Police, a memorandum detailing various incidents of police brutality. They announced their own inquiry into "allegations of brutality."

The memorandum singled out the actions of Brigadier Theuns Swanepoel, leader of the anti-riot unit.

The image of the police as a force to maintain law and order and to assist the community was disappearing as a result of brutal and heartless action and Coloured people felt the police had declared war on them, the memorandum said.

The boycott of classes by thousands of coloured students continued today, but a planned demonstration outside the Newlands police station, where 59 students arrested two weeks ago appeared on remand, was called off.

A parent said: "It would have been madness to stage the demonstration." Riot police surrounded the building and kept watch on the crowd.

Thousands of workers from Soweto went back to work today, many of them in buses which had their windows smashed by stone-throwing gangs after the tear gas attack at the church.

Descriptions of the attack vary. An Afrikaans newspaper, *Beeld*, reported today: "The black people were allowed by the police to emerge from the church building in groups. They were driven back with tear smoke every so often to prevent them forming large groups."

The report said trouble broke out after a horde of foreign cameramen and television teams approached. Black gave the black power salute and wanted the police.

A police official said the police acted after youths stoned vehicles, but did not explain why they fired tear gas at the crowd leaving the church. "I am not a strategist," the official said.

Reporters of the English-language Johannesburg *Star* said the police launched an attack after a group of about 50 people emerged from the church, with hands raised and shouting "Peace".

One spokesman said the police were driving back with tear gas as a captain fired a canister into the crowd, a constable said: "A masterpiece, Captain."

Mr. Khehla Mchombu, president of the Azanian People's Organization, said that despite the events yesterday further commemorative services would be held this weekend.

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1,000 car workers are arrested in Argentina

From Our Correspondent, Buenos Aires, June 17

More than 1,000 car workers were arrested by police today after a strike was called by the mechanics union to protest against the closing of car plants and against rising unemployment.

Police used armoured cars, patrol cars and buses to transport the workers to the police department.

They also took cameras and exposed the films of photographers from *La Semana* news magazine and *Cronica*, a mass circulation daily, and stopped a television cameraman from filming the arrests outside the union headquarters. Half a dozen streets from Government House.

Yesterday police arrested Señor José Rodríguez, the union's secretary general, and two leaders from the San Martín district branch. They were released late last night.

The arrests appeared to signal a crackdown by the military Government of President Roberto Viola on criticism of its economic policies. They followed the withdrawal on Monday by the Government of advertising from the conservative *La Prensa* newspaper, for what Señor Alberto Ortiz, the

Public Information Secretary, described as "harmful and malicious criticism" which the Government believed was intended to destroy the national reorganization process of the armed forces.

He made it clear to a representative of *La Prensa* that he had received many suggestions from the army high command to "take other measures" against the newspaper, before the withdrawal of official advertisements was ordered.

The Government's move against *La Prensa* drew fire from the newspaper owners' association, which called it a "brutish reaction" and an "attack on free expression."

The English-language daily, *Buenos Aires Herald*, said in a leading article today: "The justification given for this measure, that *La Prensa's* criticisms are destructive, unlike those of some other newspapers, does not stand up to even the most cursory scrutiny. Even if *La Prensa* were determined to undermine the 'process' it would be fully entitled to do so, because it is a matter of opinion whether this particular exercise in government is beneficial to the country or not."

The work of the Unesco conference on communications development started today after hours of wrangling over rules of procedure. What was at stake was whether or not decisions should be taken by consensus or by vote.

Two of the six days allotted for this first session of the 35-nation intergovernmental council of the International Programme for the Development of Communications (IPDC) have already been spent in choosing a chairman. This morning and much of this afternoon were spent resolving the consensus question.

The original rules of procedure prepared for the meeting said that decisions "shall be taken by a majority of the members present and voting". The Western nations, however, were concerned that this would leave them at the mercy of the Third World countries in any vote.

A "consensus on consensus" was eventually reached, in effect, by splitting the matter into two separate sub-clauses, the first saying that decisions would be taken by a majority, and the second saying that in the deliberations of the council priority should be given to the seeking of a consensus.

The first contribution to the debate on communication needs and development came from Mr. Arthur C. Clarke, the British science writer, and chancellor of the University of Marburg, representing Sri Lanka. He gave a warning that unless there was significant investment in space technology millions of people would be doomed to die.

He said the day was not far off when small electronic books containing whole libraries could be available to everyone.

Rosemary Righter, page 14

Jane Fonda renews plea to enter South Africa

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg, June 17

Jane Fonda, the actress, and her husband, Mr. Tom Hayden, who were refused entry into South Africa when they arrived here last night, have made another application to be admitted.

But the only South African soil they are likely to touch will be the floor of the transit lounge at Jan Smuts airport where they spent Tuesday night, when they arrived from Maseru, capital of Lesotho, en route to Zimbabwe.

The American political activists were invited by the students' representative council at Johannesburg's Witswatersrand University to deliver a freedom lecture but were refused visas because of the

Dissidents' trial postponed

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, June 17

A trial of four Polish dissidents charged with anti-state activities has been postponed and will again be adjourned a week before the Polish Communist Party Congress is due to begin on July 14.

The Polish leadership appears anxious to maintain calm in the days leading up to the crucial congress. However, a fresh incident of the defacing of a Soviet Second World War memorial was reported today.

Members of the free trade union movement, Solidarity, worked into the night yesterday to clean white paint from the monument in Zydradow.

It took five minutes for the court to postpone the dissidents' trial to July 2. An objection that documents had not been made available in time to prepare the case was upheld. A second objection that the indictment should be made more precise was rejected.

With the party congress less than a month away, seven out of 14 full and candidate members of the ruling Politburo have been elected by democratic secret ballot as delegates.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

Changing faces of Italy and Poland

"Lucky those who can change their rulers". Considering the great swing to the left of the French electorate, there are others in Europe who look with envy at the French, feeling sorry that they cannot do the same.

I think in particular of the two great Roman Catholic nations of Poland and Italy (although the luckier of the two remains Italy, since it borders on the sea, rather than with a totalitarian empire). In spite of historical differences, these two countries are in many ways alike.

In both of them, the two dominating political forces are the Catholics and the Communists, which have been in power (the Catholics in Italy, the Communists in Poland) for one full generation. In both cases, the ruling parties show clear signs of being almost exhausted by too much power; yet changing the rulers remains a difficult, almost an impossible task.

The comparison cannot be pushed too far. In Italy, the Christian Democrats are in power because they have always won elections. In Poland, it is an external force which makes change impossible: the Poles would not delay any longer a very radical change indeed.

There is no external force which stops the Italians, if they so wanted, from electing a different majority. It is instead the Italian left, dominated by a party which calls itself Communist, that has always scared away the decisive support of the centre voters, needed to swing a majority from right to left.

The Christian Democrats, in spite of their faults, have had the immense historical merit of always guaranteeing Italy's democratic system and Italy's ties with the West. But this does not fully explain the uninterrupted series of their electoral victories. It is the Communist failure if the Italian electorate never dared abandon the safe haven of Christian Democracy, even when the desire for change was stronger.

Without change, even in a democratic, pluralist society such as Italy, political life becomes impoverished and corrupted. In different degrees, the Poles and the Italians are now deeply aware of this truth. Nevertheless, the achievement of change remains difficult, though for different reasons.

The Poles have clearly shown that they want change, but the main decisions will be taken elsewhere, in the secrecy of the Kremlin.

The Italians, too, have strong longings for change; but will the Italian left, that is to say mostly the Communist Party, prove able to take the stage of this state of mind?

The Italian Socialists are too weak to offer a real prospect for change. So, will the Italian Communists, who so far have stood for change, make themselves finally acceptable to the Italian centre-voter? Will they one day be able to prove that they have changed, so as to make a greater change acceptable?

For instance: Would they ever dare change the name of their party? The former leader of the "liberal" Communist, Signor Giorgio Amendola, suggested the unification of the Italian left in a new party, under a new label.

Could this suggestion be taken up again in the future? Strangely enough, this idea depends on events in Poland: the process of change in Poland were to be tragically interrupted by the Soviet Army, the process of change in the Italian Communist Party would be accelerated. This is one of the many curious ways in which the futures of the two Catholic frontier countries of Europe are today interconnected, as symbolized by the fact that we have a Polish bishop in Poland.

While waiting for the unexpected to happen, the Italians are in their first non-Catholic prime minister since Signor Ferruccio Parri, in 1946. The honour should fall, unless unforeseen difficulties arise, upon a distinguished journalist, Signor Giovanni Spadolini, who nine years ago was still editor of *l'Espresso*.

He took office as a president in 1972, finally coming the successor to Signor Ugo La Malfa as leader of the small but authoritative Republican Party. If he becomes a coalition still, at the head of a Christian Democracy, the Italians will have what they call *alternanza*, a symbol and surrogate of that fuller change which they still dare not have.

It is mostly in the hands of the Christian Democrats, now badly shaken by too many scandals (will they recover?) and the Communists (will they really be able to change?). Again, the Italians are luckier than the Poles, whose future is in the rough hands of the Soviet marshals.

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Mrs. Nancy Reagan and Prince Charles on the Hudson River in New York yesterday.

Greece breaks off talks with US on military bases

From Mario Modiano, Athens, June 17

The Greek Government tonight broke off negotiations with the Americans on the future of the United States military bases in Greece in the hope that an uncompromising stand would best serve it politically in an election year.

The Government may even now advance the date of the elections due in November to take advantage of its decision to resist an unpopular deal with the Americans.

The formal decision to suspend the talks which have lasted five months is to be announced after an inner cabinet meeting called for noon tomorrow. The decision was finalised today after successive meetings of Mr. Robert McCloskey, the American Ambassador, with Mr. Constantine Mitsotakis, the Foreign Minister, and Mr. Evangelos Averoff, the Minister of Defence.

The Greek Government had set successive deadlines for a final American reply to the Greek demands for a substantial cut in the number of US troops and for allowing the United States to continue to use four principal military

Heatwave in Spain and Portugal

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, June 17

A record heat wave continued to scorch the Iberian peninsula for the tenth consecutive day as reports grew of lost crops, forest fires and water shortages.

The death toll is difficult to determine. Hospitals in many parts of Spain and Portugal have admitted many people suffering from heat. A shepherd died in a forest fire in the southern Spanish province of Jaen last weekend.

Fires destroyed timberland in many other parts of Spain. A blaze which broke out last Sunday on the Portuguese border was still going today.

Last Wednesday an 18-year-old mountaineer died of heat exhaustion after climbing five miles in 40°C (104°F) heat to seek help for two companions who had been injured in a fall.

Temperatures in the first half of June broke records in most of Spain, where the averages were in many places the highest in a century for the period. Last Sunday's maximum of 38°C in Vigo was the highest registered there in 37 years.

IN BRIEF

Bomb attack on Nato site

Hanover, June 17. — A bomb explosion hit a half-finished Nato arms depot near Hanover today, causing damage estimated at \$200,000 (£65,000), the police said.

The explosion occurred at the Nato building site at Wahren-dahl, a hamlet 17 miles south-west of Hanover. The police said that it was caused by a "bomb-like object with a timing device" which apparently acted as a trigger.

Terrorists jailed

Turin, June 17. — A court convicted 62 accused members of the Red Brigades today on charges of belonging to an armed gang and inflicted the heaviest sentences on three women urban guerrillas. One of the women was sentenced to 17 and a half years in jail.

Earthquake toll

Tehran, June 17. — The earthquake in south-eastern Iran last Thursday killed 1,027 people, government officials said today.

Spanish divorce

Madrid, June 17. — Spaniards came a step closer to being able to obtain divorces for the first time in more than 40 years when the Senate passed a divorce Bill last night. The Bill must now return to Congress for final approval.

Spying charges

Berlin, June 17. — East Germany announced today the arrest of two West Germans on charges of spying for Bonn's intelligence service. It said the number of alleged western agents seized over the past two years to 22.

Missile debris

Bonn, June 17. — The tail section of an air-to-air missile, accidentally dropped from a West German fighter aircraft two days ago, was found today in eastern Bavaria. An Air Force spokesman said it was possible that the missile exploded in the air after leaving its mounting.

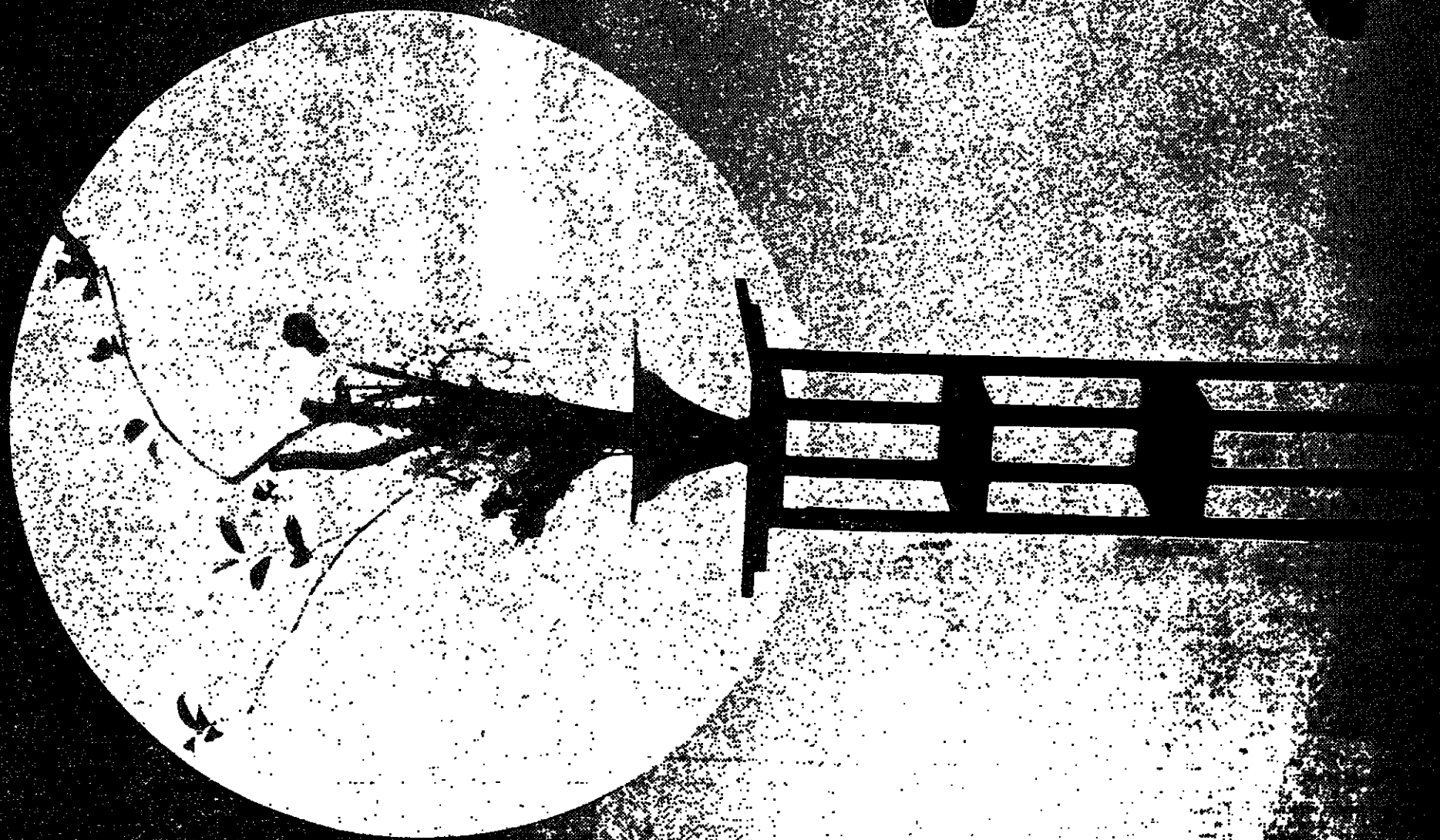
Bulgarian merger

Vienna, June 17. — Bulgaria announced today it had merged four ministries in a reshuffle apparently intended to streamline the executive. The National Assembly approved the Government of Mr. Grisha Filipov, who yesterday replaced Mr. Stanko Todorov as Prime Minister.

Woman aged 99 killed

Deansboro, New York, June 17. — Miss Eva Peck, a 99-year-old woman, was crushed to death today beneath the per wheels of a car driven by a 39-year-old sister, sheriff's deputies said. She apparently stepped behind the car as it was backing. —AP.

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LOOKING THE FACTS IN THE FACE

Most committee chairmen have faced the dilemma of how far to fudge the report for the sake of unanimity, and how far to let the majority have its head at risk of accumulating notes of reservation, and dissipating public impact. Mr Anthony Rampton went for unanimity in his report of West Indian pupils in school, published yesterday, and the Government has rewarded him by replacing him as chairman by Lord Swann, who has a more robust way with committees. Given the subject matter and the prickliness of the interest groups represented in the inquiry, he is likely to need it.

It is generally best for a report to follow the argument where it leads. Doctoring the results or deference to the susceptibilities of special interest groups, and thus obscuring what really needs to be done, is most likely to be a disservice to all concerned in the end. Mr Rampton's fudge was not a wholly ignominious one, for the most uncomfortable judgments which have been dropped from the conclusions since they were in draft still find a place in the body of the report, endorsed by the representatives of racial minorities who sat on the committee.

It will be less excusable for Lord Swann to resort to similar expedients. In spite of decades of allegation and counter-allegation, there is still remarkably little firm research evidence directly relevant to the question of West Indian children's performance in school. This provides an excuse for caution, though not for suppression. Lord Swann will be able to commission deeper research (though he will not have time for much-needed longitudinal studies) and so may hope to have a firmer base of fact to rest his conclusions on.

The basic fact is that West Indian pupils are on average strikingly less successful than others at school, on almost every test of academic achievement.

ment. Far fewer gain high grades in CSE and GCE, far more are in schools for the educationally subnormal. During the main period of immigration in the sixties it was hoped that these disparities marked the shock of transition from one society to another. But the present generation in school is almost entirely British-born, and the disparity is still marked.

Explanations exist to suit every prejudice. In view of the lack of hard information it is right to treat them all with reserve. They probably reinforce one another, which suggests that simple solutions should be treated with even greater reserve. The possibility that West Indian children are merely less clever than others is among the simplest, and least useful. Intelligence is a cluster of abilities, and putting a value on them cannot be a wholly objective process. Even if there are differences in aptitudes between races, they are so small compared to the variation within each race that they have no significance for the treatment of individuals. The differences discussed here are far too great to be convincingly explained without reference to environmental factors.

The influence of racism is likely to be important, even though it is probably very rare in the form of direct hostility and contempt from teachers. But the tendency of teachers in city schools to underestimate the abilities of all their pupils is almost certainly especially marked in respect of coloured pupils. Every coloured schoolchild must also be aware of racial prejudice in the wider atmosphere of society, and will tailor his or her hopes and efforts accordingly.

Yet this cannot be the full explanation. The committee's research shows a striking difference of average achievement between children of West Indian or Asian origin. The latter are much closer to white children in

their pattern of exam success. Yet Asians also suffer from poverty, overcrowding, and discrimination that is worse in some ways — and many of them have the additional handicap of speaking English as a second language. This evidence suggests that the most promising line of inquiry into the special problems of West Indians is to look for what they lack that Asians and Whites share.

West Indian children who do well at school are more likely to be from families where one-parent families are more common, necessity more often drives both parents out to work, and child-minding is more frequent. While there is no shortage of loving care, there may be deficiencies in that close adult attention and verbal contact which are increasingly seen as important in a child's early development. At a later stage, there is likely to be less contact and sympathy between parents and school. Today's report from the National Foundation for Educational Research suggests that the children who do well at school are more likely to come from families whose attitudes are similar to those of Asian families.

It is useless to point to all this in a censorious spirit, nor as a means of shifting the call for action from society to the family; there may be expensive implications for the provision of nursery accommodation, for instance. It is probable, as the NFER report suggests, that black community organisations have a valuable role to play in improving communications between parents and the educational system. Clearly these are only aspects of a more complex problem, and further research may make them appear less important. But they deserve further research, and Lord Swann should make sure that it is forthcoming. For if we are too timid to seek out the real causes of the problem, then we can do nothing about them.

WASHINGTON JUDGES ISRAEL

President Reagan's comments on Tuesday, in which he appeared to accept the Israeli argument that the attack on Iraq's nuclear reactor was essentially defensive, have come at a time when Mr Begin's own explanations are looking less and less plausible. At the time of the raid, Mr Begin maintained not only that Israel had to act to prevent the production of nuclear bombs by Iraq, but that it had to act urgently because the reactor would soon have become operational. He subsequently added that there was a secret installation built deep underground so that it would evade the notice of international inspectors. Since then, the idea of such a secret installation has been quietly dropped by the Israelis; and there have been statements from a number of quarters which suggest that the threat to Israel was nowhere near as dire as Mr Begin has attempted to paint it. The latest is the report by the Congressional research service in Washington to the Senate foreign relations committee. This says that in normal operation the reactor would probably have required more than a year to produce the amount of plutonium needed for a nuclear weapon; and that if it had been converted in a way designed to produce as much plutonium as possible, the change would have been visible to international inspectors. The authors comment that once it had begun operation, the reactor would probably have been inspected at monthly intervals by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). They conclude that any attempt to use it solely for the production of plutonium would have been quickly detected unless Iraq had decided to withdraw from the agency's inspection system.

These conclusions do not wholly rule out the possibility that the reactor might at some time have been used to produce plutonium for use in a nuclear weapon. But they do suggest that the risk was at least some years off, and that an attempt by Iraq to do so more quickly would be detectable, if only because of a sudden decision to exclude international inspectors. And the report points out that in the best of circumstances the Iraqi reactor, a copy of a French one used for civil nuclear purposes, would have been a most inadequate basis for a weapons programme. The report corroborates Mrs Thatcher's statement in the House of Commons that Iraq did not have the ability to manufacture fissile material for nuclear weapons. It is also fully in line with the information published in Paris this week by the French Atomic Energy Commission, promising to debate it with Iraq, and to have been used for military purposes without changes — and that any such changes would have been visible to French personnel who, by the terms of the contract, were to remain at the site until 1985.

The question arises, therefore, of what Mr Begin's exact reasons were for ordering the raid. It is possible that he acted on faulty intelligence, more likely that he decided that however remote the risk of Iraq producing a nuclear bomb, it was not a risk that could be taken. As for the timing, there were clear advantages in bombing the reactor before it became operational, because if it had been done afterwards there would have been the risk of radiation in Baghdad. But there was also the enormous advantage, for him, of carrying out the raid before the Israeli election because of the popu-

larity the government could win from a successful attack, as has been shown since. It looks increasingly as though electoral considerations were an important part of his calculations.

In any case he has created a very difficult situation for the Americans, who have found once again that they attract odium in the Arab world for what Israel does without being able to control it. The Israeli raid is bound to make more difficulties for Mr Begin's efforts to mediate between Israel and Syria; and in the long run for any broader efforts to bring peace to the Middle East. The raid was strongly criticized by the State Department immediately after it took place, and the delivery of the F16s ordered by Israel suspended. Meanwhile the Senate foreign relations committee is to examine the all-important question of whether Israel has violated its contract with the United States by using American aircraft in an offensive role.

At the end of the day it seems very unlikely that Washington will stop arms deliveries to Israel — something that it did to Turkey on similar grounds after the invasion of Cyprus in 1974. It could hardly be expected to, given Israel's virtually total dependence on American support. But even so it was ill-advised of Mr Reagan to drop the condemnatory attitude so soon. Israel under Mr Begin has caused serious problems for the United States — and has in the process lost much of the support it can usually count on, even in the influential Jewish community. There are all sorts of pressures that the Americans are beginning to bear. And they should make clear, at the United Nations and elsewhere, that they condemn the attack.

Road and rail

From Mr Michael Posner
Sir, Professor Alan Day (June 17) writes "in my observation there has been a series of studies on rail electrification, which have been carefully shielded from the light of objective public appraisal." Professor Day had a long experience in these matters and a deservedly high reputation as a scholar. However, the only electrification study that is now in the public eye is the Main Line Electrification Report which was published earlier this year. I was joint Chairman of the Steering Group for this study — if Professor Day has glanced at it at all he would have found my signature on the introduction.

It would be highly offensive to me, and very unfair to the many professionals concerned, to suggest that on this major study we have ducked public controversy or "laundered" our results. The report, all ninety pages of it, is there to read; it was preceded by a couple of years earlier by an interim report; and if Professor Day had rung me up we would have been delighted to have provided more and to have engaged in whatever public debate he suggested. This report really examined a business proposition — it was not as perhaps some earlier studies have been a "cost benefit study", but a hard-headed examination of the expected commercial rate of return in real terms, which we estimated to be around 15 per cent. If Professor Day has not read this study, I hope he will now do so.

As to the concreting over the railways, I have always regarded that as a ludicrously provocative introduction to an academic lecture, not a serious suggestion. However, if Professor Day and any experienced businessmen can find can produce a serious business proposition, I promise to debate it with him in public at the London School of Economics before a jury of our peers. My test of a "serious business proposition" is whether its supporters could raise enough money on the strength of it in the City of London to buy a bag of ready-mix, let alone a few million tons of concrete.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL POSNER,
British Railways Board,
Euston Square,
PO Box 100, NW1.

N Ireland future
From Lady Fisher
Sir, David Watt, in his article (June 12), about Northern Ireland rightly states that the DUP's policy is to continue until a political solution is found, and the level of violence contained; but there can be no solution until there is a change in the hearts of the people, and a real determination in both Protestant and Catholic communities to take joint responsibility, for the state of affairs in the province.

In forward is being taken, ACT (All Children Together), of which I am a member is starting an integrated school, Lagan College, in September. The roots of the trouble in Northern Ireland lie deep in history, and although segregated schools have not caused the problem, continuing to educate the new generation separately, is perpetuating the divisions. I was struck by what a small boy said to me recently, in the Ardara. "I don't find it very hard to shoot someone I had been to school with." The majority of parents want integrated education, as four opinion polls in the province over the last two years have shown. The best hope for the future must be in the children, who should be given the opportunity of being educated together.

I hope the new school will be given a blessing by politicians and Church leaders of all parties and denominations. We need all the support we can get.
PATRICIA FISHER,
16 North Court,
Great Peter Street, SW1.

Contempt Bill and the Press

From Mr Gareth Rees
Sir, The coverage of the events in the Mall last Saturday (June 13) when blank cartridges were aimed at the Queen shows the pointless nature of some of the discussions on the Contempt Bill which have taken place in recent months.

What is the purpose of serious discussion about the timing and nature of contempt when the press and television continue to blatantly contravene the law as they do. The breaches contained in some of the reports on the incident of last Saturday and the details of the young man arrested by police which continued until after he was charged, clearly abuse the law.

The Bill at present in Parliament aims to make the contempt begin from the time of an arrest or the issue of a summons as opposed to the time when a charge is pending or imminent.

But the material which was clearly prejudicial to the case of the man arrested continued until well after both times and show no signs of abating. The purpose of the contempt law is to protect the right of a fair trial. Are you also willing to propose that building contractors, lawyers, shopkeepers and others who also have an "interest" in local government should be restricted in this way? Are you about to attack the business ratepayers who are demanding a reintroduction of the undemocratic dual voting system?

I am seeking to defend hard-won jobs and services NALGO is acting not from "narrow, sectional interests" but from a much wider sense of public responsibility and concern, aims which the public at large is likely to applaud.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY DRAIN,
National and Local Government Officers Association,
1 Mableden Place, WC1,
June 16.

Inner city churches

From the Reverend R. W. Cotton
Sir, In his letter (June 3) regarding the plight of inner city churches, the Reverend Gavin Reid suggests that the Church of England is really two churches: one in the suburbs and urban areas, and one in the inner city. Whilst an Archbishop's Commission on the problem of inner city churches might be appropriate, surely the more realistic action could be taken by the diocesan bishops to initiate imaginative "winning" of suburban churches with urban churches. This would expose members of suburban churches to the problems of their inner city brethren, and at the same time might stimulate their financial and further support of those who worship and work in such situations.

But it would also expose them to the remarkable spiritual life that exists in many such urban areas, and the danger of any tendency to paternalism and realisation that they have much to receive from the ministry of inner city churches.

Yours faithfully,
R. W. COTTON,
Christ Church Vicarage,
Lambeth Road,
Chislehurst,
Kent.
June 9.

The Osirak raid

From Mr Geoffrey Gelberg
Sir, Mr Nasim Ahmed (June 16) cannot be so naive as to be deluded and expect our readers to be deluded by the mere fact of Iraq having signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty. Fair-minded commentators and historians, aware of the age of appeasement, will no doubt be thinking of the piece of paper which Mr Chamberlain with more optimism than reality brought us back from Munich.

NALGO action against spending cuts

From The General Secretary of the National and Local Government Officers Association

Sir, Public sector unions taking industrial action against local authorities which implement Mr Heseltine's budget reductions are not exercising "secondary control" over public policies and revenues as your leader of June 13 ("Servants not masters") suggests. Nor are we seeking to usurp the normal democratic process of elected representatives to protect the jobs of their members and it is in accordance with this long established aim that they act.

There is now ample evidence that the ratepayers too wish to guard the jobs and services which local authorities provide. It would have been far more appropriate for you to have questioned the wisdom of the cuts and ask what mandate has for cuts which in Scotland could result in up to 10,000 jobs vanishing in Lothian alone.

You suggest that NALGO's 800,000 members should not be allowed to stand in local authority elections — even outside their own area — because of the conflict of interest. How would you propose that building contractors, lawyers, shopkeepers and others who also have an "interest" in local government should be restricted in this way? Are you about to attack the business ratepayers who are demanding a reintroduction of the undemocratic dual voting system?

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Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY DRAIN,
National and Local Government Officers Association,
1 Mableden Place, WC1,
June 16.

X-rays and growth

From Dr N. Cameron
Sir, I write to point out inaccuracies in Bel Mooney's article of June 16 ("Stop exposing young immigrants to the X-ray myth"). My authority for doing so is that I was one of the experts asked by Lord Avebury to comment on the various aspects of Government policy concerning the X-raying of immigrants for the purpose of determining their chronological age. When Bel Mooney refers to "no less a body than the Institute of Child Health" she in fact refers to my comments written in a report commissioned by Lord Avebury.

Bel Mooney is clearly under a misapprehension about why "bone age" radiographs are taken when she writes: "an X-ray test... by someone who did not know the child's chronological age, or did not believe that age, would lead to the conclusion that this particular child is two years younger than stated". The point of the determination is to view the child's maturity in relation to chronological age. "Someone" who had the necessary expertise to analyse the maturity accurately would also be expected to know that chronological age varies by some two years either side of bone age. Thus their conclusion would in fact be that the appropriate chronological age for this child was an apparent bone age of five, might be anywhere between three and seven years in 95 per cent of cases, and still younger or older in the remaining 5 per cent.

The very important and pertinent question as to why her "child was X-rayed was to ensure that his short stature was simply due to delayed maturation and not some more sinister disorder. Such a conclusion may only be reached, in a prepubertal child, by investigating the maturation of the skeleton.

Bel Mooney is quite wrong to state that "the Institute of Child Health has pointed out that X-rays are unsafe and wildly inaccurate". At no time have I (and therefore the Institute of Child Health) passed any opinion on the safety of X-raying a child's hand and wrist. Ted White, who wrote Lord Avebury's report, uses various sources to arrive at his conclusion that X-rays are not safe within the context of the report, but he does not use the Institute of Child Health as a source. The dramatic and emotive opinion that X-rays are "wildly inaccurate" also does not come from my report to Lord Avebury.

Within the clinical context in which they are used in this country — to determine the relationship of

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From The General Secretary of the National and Local Government Officers Association

Sir, Public sector unions taking industrial action against local authorities which implement Mr Heseltine's budget reductions are not exercising "secondary control" over public policies and revenues as your leader of June 13 ("Servants not masters") suggests. Nor are we seeking to usurp the normal democratic process of elected representatives to protect the jobs of their members and it is in accordance with this long established aim that they act.

There is now ample evidence that the ratepayers too wish to guard the jobs and services which local authorities provide. It would have been far more appropriate for you to have questioned the wisdom of the cuts and ask what mandate has for cuts which in Scotland could result in up to 10,000 jobs vanishing in Lothian alone.

You suggest that NALGO's 800,000 members should not be allowed to stand in local authority elections — even outside their own area — because of the conflict of interest. How would you propose that building contractors, lawyers, shopkeepers and others who also have an "interest" in local government should be restricted in this way? Are you about to attack the business ratepayers who are demanding a reintroduction of the undemocratic dual voting system?

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Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY DRAIN,
National and Local Government Officers Association,
1 Mableden Place, WC1,
June 16.

Historical papers

From Mr Ian Anstruther
Sir, Why has no one written to you to speak up for the Historical Manuscripts Commission, under criticism recently, from the point of view of the students, the amateur historians like myself as well as the professionals who come to Quality House from all over the world?

During the 1970s the staff there were, listing the personal archive of "O.R." I consulted these papers continuously, and got to know the staff well and was able to judge, from experience of other libraries, what a superb job they were doing.

The product of their labour which took them ten years to complete, an impeccable handlist, indexed and cross-indexed, deserves a better fate than the mere roneo-copied typescript in which form it still remains. As their Annual Reports show this was only one of the many projects they had in hand during this time. Their work deserves all praise. It is sad that, being somewhat specialized, it cannot be more widely appreciated.

Yours sincerely,
IAN ANSTRUTHER,
Springfield,
Barlborough,
Derbyshire,
Derbyshire, Sussex.

Proposed changes in pilotage law

From Mr A. W. Snook

Sir, Recently Trinity House has been subjected to adverse criticism about proposals for reorganization of the pilotage service in its pilotage districts.

It has been inferred that Trinity House and its pilots have jointly forced through legislation which is to their benefit and to the detriment of the British shipowners. This is not true.

When the Merchant Shipping Act of 1973 was being debated in Parliament, Trinity House was the only organization concerned to voice reservations about it; however, it was then persuaded by the General Council of British Shipping to withdraw its objections and thus permit a smooth passage for the new legislation. The letter dated May 26 from a member of that body fails to make any mention of this. Indeed, as Mr Michael Bailly has been aware of it, perhaps his article "Why shipowners are taking on the pilots" (June 12) would have contained different facts.

Trinity House has never disputed that the principles of the Act are logical. It is sensible that the pilotage of any vessel should be in the hands of a competent person, the hands of a competent pilot. The difficulty lies in fair and proper implementation of this basic logic within the framework of the new legislation.

Reviewing preceding letters on this subject it would appear that many of your correspondents fail to appreciate that decisions in the administration of pilotage are made by committees comprised of shipowners, pilots, Port Authorities and, in the minority, this House. Although the latter is the Authority and promotes the byelaws it does not regulate the rates of pilotage — a matter which is decided upon between the shipowners and pilots themselves.

In the meantime, Trinity House would welcome understanding on this complex situation. Particularly from those who sought changes in the law.

Yours faithfully,
A. W. SNOOK,
Deputy Secretary,
Trinity House,
Tower Hill, EC3,
June 17.

Rigours of the season

From Mr Roland Morris
Sir, The following is extracted from a letter written by Horace Walpole from Strawberry Hill, Twickenham on June 15, 1768:

I perceive the deluge fell on you before it reached us, and so many on Monday last that we raised our night and forty hours without intermission. My poor boy has not a dry thread to his back. I have had a fine throat, and in short, every summer one lives in a state of mummy and mummery, and I have found the reason: it is because we will attempt to have a summer and we have no tide to any such thing. Our poets learn their trade of the Romans and so stand in the streets, and get so sore throats and agues with attempting to realise their visions. Yours etc,
ROLAND MORRIS,
6 Highfields,
Lakenheath,
Suffolk.

Light years away

From Mr Andrew Jones
Sir, On a recent stay in London I attempted to visit the Lesarum. Directory Enquiries kindly gave me the number so that I might find out its opening times, but on dialling the number I received information in French, German, Spanish and finally Japanese.

Has our capital become so cosmopolitan that it no longer caters for its natives? Yours faithfully,
ANDREW JONES,
Sherwood Hall, Nottingham.

Stock Exchange Prices

Light selling

6 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]

Return of the barnstormers in U.S., page 21

Business News

THE TIMES June 18 1981

IDC
Design, Construction & Engineering Service
Stratford-upon-Avon 4268

Stock markets
FT Index 544.8 down 6.5
FT Gilts 66.67 down 0.03

Sterling
\$1.9975 up 15 points
Index 95.6 down 0.1

Dollar
Index 107.2 down 0.2
DM 2.3477 down 40 pts

Gold
\$461.50 down \$1

Money
3-mth sterling 12 1/2-12 3/4
3-mth Euro \$ 174-16 1/2
3-mth Euro \$ 163-16 1/2

IN BRIEF

Thorn EMI to make video discs

Thorn EMI has bought for an undisclosed sum a factory in Swindon which could employ 100 workers by next April manufacturing video discs. It is expected to be in full production by next January, ready for the launch of the company's video players in the United Kingdom in June.

Thorn EMI has adopted the system of the Japanese Victor Company (JVC) in preference to its rivals from Philips of Holland and RCA of America. The JVC system called the video high density will be launched in the United States next January to compete against the RCA and Philips systems.

Hongkong shipping

Sir Y. K. Pao, chairman of Worldwide Shipping Group, said that in view of United Nations moves to abolish flags of convenience, the British and Hongkong governments should consider the creation of a Hongkong shipping register.

Change of name

The Radiochemical Centre in Amersham, Buckinghamshire, has changed its name to Amersham International, to bring it into line with its subsidiaries in the United States, France, Germany, Belgium, Holland and Australia.

Chemicals warning

M. Jacques Solvay, president of CEFIC, the European chemical industry organization, said in Brussels that even small quantities of cheap chemical imports into the EEC from the United States and East Europe can be damaging.

Honda's SE debut

Honda, the Japanese motor manufacturer, has been granted a listing on the London Stock Exchange. The company was sponsored by bankers Kleinwort, Benson and stockbrokers Cazenove. Dealings start today.

Paper mill jobs go

Yates Duxbury, the Lancashire paper maker which went into receivership two weeks ago, closed yesterday with the loss of 200 jobs. The receivers, Younce Ross, said the company's substantial losses could no longer be supported.

Unit trust sales

Sales of unit trusts totalled £73.92m in May, well down on April's £107.43m, but still the fourth highest on record. Net new investment, at £36.43m, compared with net withdrawals of £567,000 in May 1980 and net new investment of £60.15m in April 1981. For the fifth month running the number of unit holders' accounts has increased, to 1,761,000.

Financial Editor, page 21

Textiles upturn

A textile industry upturn is reported by Dawson International, makers of the Pringle of Scotland luxury knitwear brands. Prices of polyester filament yarn and acrylic fibre have risen by between 20 and 30 per cent in two months.

Financial Editor, page 21

Roads computer order

ICL has won a £15m contract from the Western Australian State Government for the supply of a computer system for the state's road traffic authority.

Westinghouse deal

Westinghouse Electric Corporation has reached agreement with the Italian companies which will build the pressurized water reactors in Italy under licence.

Wall Street higher

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 1,006.56, up 3.23 on Wall Street yesterday. The S&P 500 index rose 1.16569 while the £=SDR rate was 0.58269.

Manufacturing output starts slow recovery

By Our Economics Editor

Industrial production showed some stabilization in April after two years of decline, the Department of Industry said yesterday. Provisional figures for industrial output showed a 0.2 per cent drop on the March figure, while manufacturing output actually increased 0.8 per cent.

The figures suggest that output was still falling in the three months to the end of April, but they point to an end in the steep decline recorded throughout most of 1980. In the three months output was 0.6 per cent lower for all industries than in the previous three months. The April production index was 98.8. Manufacturing, which had seen sharp falls throughout 1980, had performed slightly better in recent months. The drop in the three months to the end of April was only 0.3 per cent.

The biggest and most surprising jump in the manufacturing sector in April was metal, which jumped more than 7 per cent in one month alone to reach the highest level since early 1980.

Another bright spot was chemicals, where output in the three months to the end of April was up by 1.4 per cent on the previous three months. Chemicals and steel stand to benefit from an end to destocking, which is expected to be the most positive force working on the economy over the next six months, according to analysts.

Engineering remains depressed, with output down by 1.8 per cent in the three months to the end of April.

Pay deals average falls to 14 per cent

By David Blake and Peter Hill

The annual rate of pay increases slowed again in April, according to figures published yesterday by the Department of Employment.

Average earnings went up by just under 1 per cent after allowing for seasonal factors, bringing the annual rate of increase down to 14 per cent from 14.5 per cent in April. The earnings increase peaked at an annual rate of 26.1 per cent last September.

Since then, wages have been going up at an underlying rate of about three quarters of 1 per cent a month, according to department calculations. This figure fits in with estimates published yesterday by the Federation of British Industries based on its database of pay agreements. This shows that settlements in manufacturing are averaging between 8 and 9 per cent.

The CBI and the Government believe that pay deals have been averaging the same level ever since the pay round got under way last October. The fall in the annual rate since then is caused by previous high settlements dropping out of the figures.

With deals covering 55 per cent of the present round, it seems likely that average earnings will grow by about 10 per cent in the 12 months to the end of July, yet to enter Government figures cover a further 10 per cent of the workforce and are thought to have been signed in May, with similar numbers of people expected to be covered by June and July agreements.

About 10 to 15 per cent of workers are not expected to settle at all during this pay round. The figures show that manufacturing has done much worse than the rest over the past 12 months. Manufacturing wages have gone up by only 11.5, compared with 14 per cent for the whole economy. Manufacturing workers have been badly hit by short-time working and the loss of overtime, but their position might improve as the economy recovers.

The CBI aims to cut the level of earnings increases in the next pay round to about 5 per cent and is holding a conference for members today to discuss industry's approach.

Uncertainty is undermining plans by the EEC Commission to tighten controls on steel production, enforced since last autumn, in favour of an agreement by producers to curb output voluntarily, the Commission still has to spell out how it intends to apply its check on prices among steel stockholders and steel merchants.

The voluntary pact, which is aimed at providing a 10 per cent to 15 per cent price boost, is vital if the bitter price-cutting war, which has been taking place against a background of severe overcapacity and reduced demand, is to be ended. Under the proposals, the Commission will require steel producers to publish their list prices and stockholders will also be required to lodge their price lists with Brussels. There are an estimated 4,000 stockholders throughout the EEC who will be brought under the Commission's price surveillance machinery.

But so far, precise details of whether the stockholders' lists should relate to minimum or maximum prices have not been

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

Index numbers for industrial production in June seasonally adjusted, released by the Central Statistical Office yesterday (1975=100)

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Total	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
Manufacturing	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
Non-manufacturing	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
Seasonally adjusted	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1981	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1980	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1979	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1978	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1977	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1976	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5
1975	100.0	101.4	102.5	103.5	104.5	105.5	106.5

% change in output
3 months over
previous 3 months

1981 0.8 0.3

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Expanding Tesco do better than expected

By Peter Wilson-Smith
Tesco, the high street supermarket group, reported profits down from £36.5m to £35.6m before tax in the 53 weeks to June 12. But the group's market was pleased with the figures, having expected worse after the half-time drop of £5.6m to £11.4m.

Encouraged by a small rise in the year's dividend from 3.5p gross to 3.64p, the shares rose 5p yesterday to 65p.

Tesco's results continue to reflect the cost of its huge store-opening programme last year, the highest increase in the group's history. A further 22 stores were opened, adding 790,000 sq ft to total selling space of 6.8m. Tesco plans 17 new stores during 1981-82, adding another 600,000 sq ft.

Tesco's expansion has led to an increase in depreciation from £14.6m to £20.2m, while interest charges last year jumped from £3.2m to £15.7m. Before these charges, profits were nearly a third higher at £71.6m.

Tesco said the second half increase in profits had been achieved through higher profit margins and substantial pruning of costs and this led to improved productivity. There was a marked improvement in stockturn both in grocery and Home 'n' Wear—Tesco's non-food operation.

However, finance director Mr. Ralph Temple said the performance of Home 'n' Wear was disappointing and steps had been taken to rationalize the product range.

A revaluation of Tesco's properties threw up a surplus of £150m, although this had not been incorporated in the accounts. Tesco has arranged a £100m medium-term loan facility which £50m had been used at the year-end to replace short-term borrowings. The sale of properties and sale and leasebacks generated £29m during the year and property sales worth £10m have been contracted since the year-end.

Financial Editor, page 21

Amex open to offers for offshoot

From Anthony Hilton
New York, June 17

British and other non-American banks are expected to head the "quest" to purchase the American Express International Banking Corporation after the disclosure that its parent company is prepared to listen to offers.

The division, which offices in 34 countries and assets of \$5,900m (about £3,447m), accounts for 11 per cent of the profits of the American Express Group. In 1980 it earned \$41m.

The figure is substantially lower than its earnings in its two main activities: travel services, which contributed \$177m, and insurance, which made \$210m.

Analysts believe the company is willing to consider offers because its overseas activities are unlikely to grow rapidly, and the capital could probably be better employed in America where Amex is merging with the huge Wall Street stock broker, Shearson Loeb Rhoades.

The merger could also run into problems of the United States authorities' fear that Amex is a fully-fledged bank. It was in documents to shareholders about this merger that American Express disclosed that it had talks with third parties about the division.

Uncertainty is undermining plans by the EEC Commission to tighten controls on steel production, enforced since last autumn, in favour of an agreement by producers to curb output voluntarily, the Commission still has to spell out how it intends to apply its check on prices among steel stockholders and steel merchants.

The voluntary pact, which is aimed at providing a 10 per cent to 15 per cent price boost, is vital if the bitter price-cutting war, which has been taking place against a background of severe overcapacity and reduced demand, is to be ended. Under the proposals, the Commission will require steel producers to publish their list prices and stockholders will also be required to lodge their price lists with Brussels. There are an estimated 4,000 stockholders throughout the EEC who will be brought under the Commission's price surveillance machinery.

But so far, precise details of whether the stockholders' lists should relate to minimum or maximum prices have not been

notified, and the United Kingdom stockholding industry remains confused as to how surveillance will operate.

The voluntary agreement on production levels is due to be implemented from the beginning of next month and is expected to be formally endorsed at a Council of Ministers meeting in Brussels next week. Members of the National Association of Steel Stockholders believe it could well take several months before the price monitoring machinery is able to operate effectively. The Commission's aim is to provide an increase in price levels throughout the industry and infringements will expose offenders to heavy fines. Members of the association strongly support the Commission's measures since stockholders face similar difficulties in selling their steel at a profit.

Increases in market prices for the steel producers will help the stockholders to recover at least some of their disastrously low profit margin. But although hopes within the industry are high and the voluntary pact perhaps represents the last chance for the European steel industry to reestablish itself as a profitable and competitive force—there are already indications that some producers may be prepared to risk the fines.



The champagne ceremony on the bows. The top brass and distinguished guests look on.

Launch that faced a couple of slips



This was the moment when a £120m frigate began her Royal Navy career in a manner far from ship-shape. As HMS Boxer was launched from the Yarrow slipway, Glasgow, yesterday, a flagstaff mounted on the prow caught on a beam of her covered berth. Seconds later, as senior officers and overseas guests looked on in mounting alarm, she careered right across the River Clyde and ran her stern into the opposite bank. She quivered, then came to rest, apparently undamaged. Mr Robert Easton, Yarrow's chairman, blamed the incident on a pin shearing in the drag chains, which should have slowed down the 4,000-ton vessel. "It is one of those things that happen occasionally at launches," he said. "We have examined the ship and there is no damage. She just touched the bank and came away again."

Big cutback in oil tanker fleets

By Baron Phillips
Two leading oil companies are to make drastic reductions in their tanker fleets in the face of a world-wide oil glut and excess shipping capacity.

BP is slimming down by a further six ships after announcing a similar cut at the beginning of the year. Shell Tankers BV, the Dutch arm of the group's shipping division, will cut back by almost 30 per cent over the next five years.

BP's decision will take the overall reduction this year from 58 to 64 tankers. The group is also cutting its seagoing staff by 230 United Kingdom officers, 370 United Kingdom ratings and a comparable number of Indian crew.

Mr Ronald Ilian, managing director of BP Shipping, said last night that the cutbacks were caused by the general fall in world demand for tankers and a sharp drop in BP's requirements.

The Merchant Navy and Airline Officers' Association said of the BP move last night: "We are appalled and dismayed by the decision, especially as we only learned about it second-hand and there was no consultation."

Shell Tankers BV is to cut its fleet from 35 to 25 over the next five years. By 1989 the company will have disposed of 12 vessels (mainly tugs) and added two more smaller oil product carrying vessels.

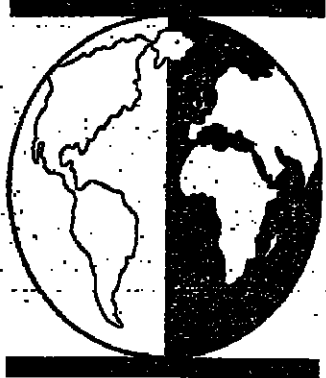
During the 1970s, the Milan Bourse gained the reputation of being a preserve for reckless speculators but recently small investors have been encouraged to return.

Lloyd's fears domino reinsurance collapse

By Richard Allen
From John Earle
Rome, June 17

The Milan Bourse today lived up to its reputation as a lucky dip when, after a 12 per cent fall in two consecutive days, it bounced up to register a gain of 5.22 per cent.

The rise was a reaction to yesterday's decision by Consob, the Bourse supervisory commission, to allow only spot dealing for cash, in order to dampen speculation and protect the host of small savers who in recent weeks have put their money into shares as a hedge against inflation.



China to pay debts on time

China has abandoned efforts to defer payments for \$600m (£301m) in plant machinery ordered from Japan for three petrochemical projects which Peking has postponed.

The Chinese Government notified the Japanese embassy in Peking that it will continue to make cash payments to Japanese suppliers for equipment ordered in 1978 for proposed petrochemical plants in Nanjing, Shengchi and Daqing. China has been negotiating with suppliers to refinance the purchases with a loan from Tokyo's Export-Import Bank. Peking was seeking relief from the payments partly because it feared a sharp decline in the value of the yen, but also because it has been forced to delay or cancel several industrial development projects in recent months.

No Kuwait oil cut

Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al-Sabah, Kuwait's oil minister, said Kuwait would not lower its current oil output by the level agreed at last month's Opec conference. He said the up to three million barrels a day oil surplus would disappear by the end of this year and he did not expect oil prices to fall.

Coal conversion offer

Australia has offered to advise Brazil on conversion of coal to oil. The offer was made in Brasilia by Mr Doug Anthony, deputy prime minister.

Japan ship orders up

Foreign orders received by Japanese shipyards rose sharply to 34 vessels totalling 671,329 gross tons in May from 20 ships and 337,669 tons a year earlier.

Belgian jobs plan

Mr Roger De Wulf, Belgium's labour minister, has proposed a major investment programme to create 200,000 jobs by 1985.

Soviet output lags

Soviet industrial output from January to May this year grew 3.2 per cent against the same period last year. Western economic experts say Soviet planners will be concerned that the 4.1 per cent growth target for 1981 may not be achieved.

Investment cut back

Japan's direct overseas investment in 1980-81 fell 6 per cent to \$4,680m (£2,375m) from a record \$4,990m a year earlier, the finance ministry announced in Tokyo. Japan's direct investment in the industrialized nations was increased in an attempt to ease trade frictions.

Uranium find

The Japanese Power Reactor and Nuclear Development Corporation said drill holes at its uranium find in Western Australia showed uranium oxide content of up to 2 per cent.

Engine group expects truck sales revival

By Clifford Webb, Midlands Industrial Correspondent



Cummins-owned trucks geared up for recovery

Cummins, the American-owned diesel manufacturer with a large stake in the British truck market, yesterday reported that the recession which has seen total United Kingdom truck sales plummet by 40 per cent, has now bottomed out. It predicts a "moderate revival" for the remainder of 1981, followed by rapid growth of over 25 per cent a year for 1982 and 1983. This would bring 1984 truck sales back to the record levels achieved in 1979.

Cummins' optimism will be welcome relief to the widespread gloom which has till now covered the whole truck industry. But even if the recession has bottomed out, and sales improve in the second half of 1981, manufacturers will still have to contend with further sales losses over the year 43-47.

In the most important sector, over 20 tonnes articulated vehicles, Cummins forecasts only 8,500 new registrations compared with 10,000 last year. That means that 1981 will still be a disastrous 34 per cent down on 1979.

Heavy duty "arcs" account for over 20 per cent of the commercial vehicle market, but traditionally show a sharper decline in periods of recession than other sectors. Against this, the rigid truck market has held up better, although foreign competition has benefited.

In that respect, Volvo's success has been quite outstanding. The Swedish company led the rigid market in 1975 when it took 2.8 per cent. Today it holds over 17 per cent.

Cummins believes that the

four-year rigid market will be the fastest growing sector, rising from 1,700 in 1980 to 2,500 in 1984.

That would mean Cummins engines powering over half of all British-made trucks, and explains why the company is already investing nearly £50m to expand its plant at Shorts, Lanarkshire, Darlington, Co Durham, and Davenport.

Mr Roger Wilson, manager of Cummins's European field operations, said: "We have taken a long, hard look at the market and firmly believe that the recession has now bottomed out. We can look forward to moderately buoyant marketing conditions in about a year from now."

"There has generally been a trend towards maximum weight vehicles, and above all Armitage (the Armitage Report proposing increased maximum weights for trucks) may become a reality. Cummins plans to increase its own penetration to 26 per cent."

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First satellite station for business use

By Bill Johnstone

Britain's first commercially-owned satellite earth station, which will be used for business use, is to be built by Marconi Communication Systems for operation early next year.

The station, with its rooftop antenna and accompanying electronics, will be located at the Marconi Research Laboratories at Great Baddow, Essex.

The new earth station will take part in a commercial experiment called "University Link" which will link the computers of Cambridge, Loughborough and University College, London. British Telecom, the Department of Industry, the Science and Engineering Research Council and Logica are also involved.

Three other rooftop terminals will be built by Marconi to be housed at the universities involved in the project. The experiment, designed to demonstrate high speed intercomputer data transmission, will use the orbital test station launched by the European Space Agency in 1978.

Four other Marconi earth stations are already in operation.

The first in Oxford and another in Geneva, Switzerland, are involved in an experiment to test methods of transferring bulk amounts of data on high energy nuclear physics between the Rutherford laboratories and the European Nuclear Research Centre (CERN).

The other two, at Farnborough and Darmstadt, West Germany, are transferring information on space.

Viewdata, videoconferencing, high quality facsimile transmission and bulk data transmission are all expected to be available over satellite links.

180 jobs go at Mitcham disc factory

By Our Commercial Editor

Precision Records and Tapes, part of Associated Communications Corporation, headed by Lord Grade, is to drop production of records with the loss of 180 jobs at its Mitcham, Surrey, disc-pressing plant.

PRT has already stopped making its own tapes, leading to the closure of a smaller factory at Dagenham, Essex.

But the company, which is one of the top half-dozen record distributors in Britain, plans to expand its sales of records and tapes. It already distributes for leading producers, including the BBC and Magnet.

At Mitcham, 14 million records a year have been produced, and the company is arranging with two other large pressing plants to supply its needs. To ensure supplies at peak production demand periods, it is financing extra equipment at the alternative pressing plants where some new jobs are expected to be created.

PRT also plans to expand through a new company, which will produce original material for new records and tapes. The separate distribution company is likely to seek extra clients to expand PRT's volume.

The decision to pull out of production comes at a time when the record and tape industry is facing increasingly tough trading conditions.

Sales of records plunged again last year and the squeeze on profit margins has meant that any but the large pressing factories have become increasingly uneconomic.

Going for a fatter slice of £600,000m market Britain to drum up trade in Europe

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

UK TOP EXPORT 1980

	£ million	% of all UK exports
West Germany	5,071	11
United States of America	4,535	9½
Netherlands	3,843	8
France	3,586	7½
Belgium	2,637	5½
Luxembourg	2,269	5
Switzerland	1,953	4
Italy	1,896	4
Sweden	1,618	3½
Spain	1,518	3½
Denmark	1,030	2½
South Africa	998	2

Mounting anxieties about Britain's poor performance in exporting to the 17 countries of Western Europe, a £600,000m-a-year market, has led the British Overseas Trade Board (BOTB) into a new initiative which not only includes a campaign aimed at making industrialists more aware of opportunities, but a switch in BOTB resources.

Market research at a sufficiently detailed level to be useful to companies in specific sectors and national markets is to be beefed up. Other improvements in overseas market intelligence reports are planned, all aimed at the West European market.

First results are coming in from four product teams which have been studying developments in European countries for the past six months. They have been identifying export opportunities which British companies are best fitted to exploit.

But BOTB's Exports to Europe Branch (EEB), led by Mr David Wiseman, wants to tackle head on its most immediate worry — that too many British companies are throwing away trading chances in what is now an almost tariff-free market. Although 58 per cent of British exports

now go to Western Europe, British goods still account for only 6.5 per cent of total exports into the West European market.

Mr Wiseman has another problem: "Too many large companies know how to bleed the 12 system dry; the people we need to get to are the medium-sized and smaller

companies that are the newcomers." This is why seven regional conferences are being held later this year.

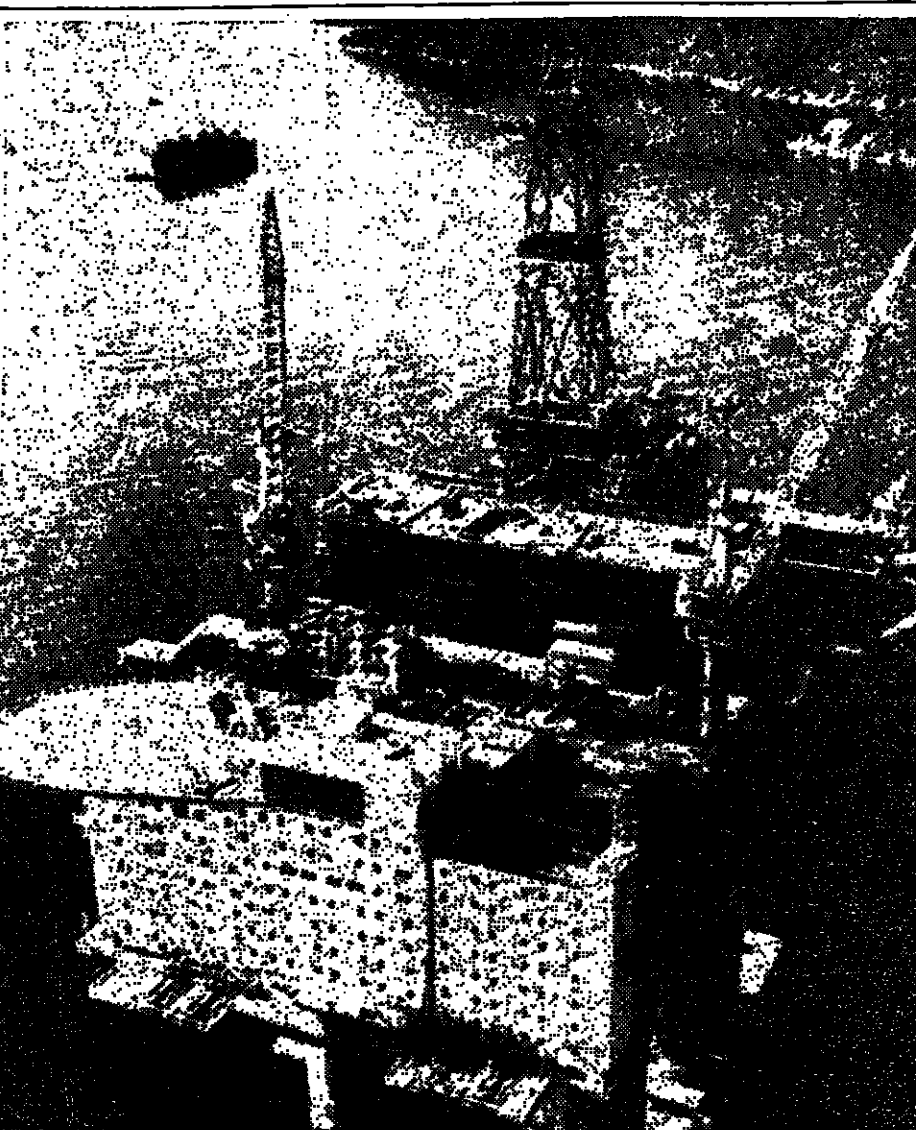
The drum-banging begins on Thursday next week at a London conference at which speakers will include Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, and Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister for Trade.

A British jam manufacturer failed to sell in the Netherlands until closer market study showed the Dutch dislike preservatives and additives.

It is a mistake to underestimate the amount of sophisticated consumer goods which are saleable in countries such as Spain and Italy despite a tendency to classify those countries as less developed markets.

German customers, with their high expectations of products, are among the toughest. A survey has shown 80 per cent of them uncompromisingly identify what they want and buy only that. In Britain only 40 per cent of consumers are so choosy, the survey found.

Security equipment, including intruder alarms, is probably an underdeveloped opportunity for British makers.



World's biggest offshore rig

Oslo, June 17

The world's biggest offshore platform was yesterday officially named Statfjord B at Yrkessjorden near Stavanger. It is now getting ready for towing out to the Statfjord oil and gas field, off western Norway, next August.

When completely outfitted and fully loaded with oil, the 51,700m (258m) four-legged platform of the Condeep-type will weigh about 84,000 tons. The 271-metre tall rig, when floating at the Statfjord field without oil in its storage cells and with reduction for buoyancy, will weigh about 367,000 tons.

The Statfjord field contains more than 3,000 million barrels of oil and about 100,000 million cubic metres of natural gas. The Statfjord B rig will have a daily production capacity of 150,000 barrels or 7.5 million tons of oil a year.

The rig consists of a 550,000-ton concrete base structure of 24 under-water cells, four supporting concrete legs and a huge steel deck.

Twenty of the under-water cells will be used for storing 1.9 million barrels (250,000 tons) of oil. Each cell has an inner diameter of 23 metres and is 64 metres high. The entire base covers an area of 18,200 square metres.

The four other cells support the four 111-metre-tall concrete legs carrying the 45,000-ton two-storey steel deck, living quarters for 200 people, a helicopter deck and four large cranes. The two-storey deck is 30.5 metres high, 114 metres long and 55 metres wide.

The concrete base and the deck, both built in Stavanger by Norwegian companies for the Statfjord group, were towed separately to Yrkessjorden.

Another Norwegian-built Condeep rig, the 650,000-ton Statfjord A, is already producing at the Statfjord field, of which 11.25 per cent stretches into the British sector of the North Sea. — AP-Dow Jones.

£25m grain mill boost for Corby

By Hugh Clayton

Investment of £20m in new plant by Associated British Foods will lead to the creation of two automated grain factories and more than 400 jobs at the former steel town of Corby, Northamptonshire.

Some of the money will be spent on a grain export terminal near the town, which will handle part of the growing British sale of grain to deficit countries such as Poland.

Mr Garry Weston, chairman of ABF, said in London yesterday: "This will be my country's biggest single programme of new capital investment in this country."

The projects mark a new stage in the steady conversion of British crown land into a major importer of grain to a modern exporter in the wake of record harvests and support for farmers through the Common Agricultural Policy.

Mr Weston said that the group's £15m flour mill, at Corby would be "the first inland mill built in Britain in living memory". Existing mills in ports reflected the country's long dependence on grain imports from North America.

The group is to build a £10m plant at Corby for the production of gluten and starch from home-grown wheat using technology made available through a partnership with Finnish developers. Gluten is used in breakfast cereals.

The announcement was given at an exceptionally warm welcome by Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture. He said: "Mr Weston's press conference straight from a Cabinet debate about economic policy and said: 'I particularly rejoice when one of Britain's leading economic companies expresses its confidence in the future by a dramatic £30m investment programme.'

"The food industry is, I suppose, a great jewel in the economic crown of Great Britain. What you are now embarking on will be important, export-creating and job-creating. Corby, through no fault of its own, is faced with very serious problems of unemployment."

For the Corby development, the group received regional development aid and a training grant of £125,000 from the British Steel Corporation.

'No option' on nuclear power

By Edward Townsend

A warning that British industry will be forced to pay considerably more for its electricity in the coming decades because of delays in the acceptance and building of nuclear power stations, is given in a new survey of world electricity costs published this week.

The report, from the American-based National Utility Service, says that nuclear power will cost about 12 per cent of Britain's electricity needs and will still supply only 30 per cent, if the building programme is completed on schedule, by the year 2000.

NUS (UK) says: "In the absence of significant hydro resources and faced with the prospect of continuing price increases in coal, the United Kingdom's major generation source, Britain has little option but to accelerate urgently the building of nuclear power stations."

"Our industry cannot pay any more for electricity price increases indefinitely; we need more nuclear stations, faster."

The survey, based on electricity bills paid by 750,000 commercial and industrial users in Europe, North America and South Africa, says the outlook for further containment of British electricity prices is bleak. After a 16.7 per cent increase in the past year, customers face another of 8-10 per cent rise in September.

Unless the nuclear programme can be revitalised quickly, NUS believes that annual increases will continue to exceed inflation by about 5 per cent.

In 1980-81, British industry was paying the world's second highest electricity price, but was seventh in terms of the severity of price increases during the same period.

Belgium, dependent largely upon imported oil, has the world's highest prices, which last year rose by more than 30 per cent. France, however, had cost increases of only 6.8 per cent, and its industry pays a third less, in terms of United States cents per kilowatt hour (at April 1, 1981, exchange rates) than the British.

France experienced the second lowest price rise in Europe and, says NUS, this reflects the strengthening of the country's nuclear power generation.

West Germany's suppliers lifted their prices by 15.8 per cent in the past year, almost three times the country's annual inflation rate. Again, says NUS, continuing delay in bringing nuclear

World Industrial & Commercial Electricity Costs 1980/81

	1980/81
Belgium	120
France	70
Germany	64
Italy	61
United States	57
Netherlands	44
Spain	42
Sweden	41
Australia	39
South Africa	38
Canada	29
UK	28

Source: National Utility Service. U.S. Cents per kilowatt hour.

	1980/81
Belgium	30.5%
France	22.1%
Germany	18.5%
Italy	18.5%
United States	16.7%
Netherlands	15.8%
Spain	15.8%
Sweden	15.8%
Australia	15.8%
South Africa	15.8%
Canada	15.8%
UK	15.8%

Source: National Utility Service. U.S. Cents per kilowatt hour.

stations on stream — will bring to an end Germany's long period of moderate annual price increases.

In the United States prices went up by an average of 22 per cent reflecting energy conservation measures, oil import costs and a weak dollar during much of the period, although prices are still 25 per cent lower than in the United Kingdom.

NUS says that a shining example of reversing the global trend towards higher prices is provided by the United States company, Virginia Electric and Power of Richmond, whose new nuclear system enabled a cut in prices of 0.63 cents per unit.

Britain tops invisible earnings table

By Anne Warden

The United Kingdom became the largest net earner of invisible export income in the fields of consultancy, contractors, insurance, financial services, films, royalties and student fees, in 1979, with a surplus of 4,600m SDR (£2,691m) in the latest figures issued by the Committee on Invisible Exports.

Britain's performance pushed the United States down to second place, with a surplus of 3,842m SDRs (£2,242m) in 1978. However, surpluses on travel and investment fell in the period between 1978 and 1979, mainly due to higher payments to foreign investors in North Sea oil development.

The United Kingdom also recovered second place in the ranking by gross receipts, overtaking France. Britain's receipts grew 30.9 per cent, from 24,591m SDR in 1978 to 31,914m SDR in 1979. This was largely because of sharp rise in indirect investment.

The United Kingdom's net surplus also increased slightly, from 7,389m SDR, to 7,524m SDR.

World invisible trade increased its share of total world trade in 1979 for the third year in succession, to 24.3 per cent, and the fastest growing area was investment income partly because of higher interest rates.

However, the invisible trade increase was slower than in the two preceding years, and transport, travel, and financial services all declined relative to investment income.

Mr Garry Weston announces

New major investment programme

New major investments for ABF

£30 million capital expenditure programme to commence at once in the field of grain processing and handling to back ABF Group skills and to take advantage of new technologies and market opportunities.

New major investments for Corby

The major part of this investment will be at Corby where it will create jobs and, we believe, confidence; and bring new skills to a location ideally situated near England's wheat growing heart land. Capital expenditure will include £15 million for a new bread flour mill designed to use the maximum of home grown wheat. Additionally at Corby will be a £10 million factory to produce gluten and starch for use in the food industry and for other industrial uses, providing an outlet for some 100,000 tonnes of home grown wheat.

New major investments for British farmers

In backing our skills we are backing the expanding cereal growing industry in this country for British farmers. The wheat these new investments will use, and the products they produce will replace cereals grown overseas and products manufactured outside this country.

In addition, the better to service the British farmer, our Group will be building a new major grain storage and shipping terminal in East Anglia to be operated by our international grain trading subsidiary. Through this terminal we expect to condition and export over half-a-million tonnes of grain a year — a facility that will help open up wider overseas markets for British grain, and help the products of the British farmer to compete abroad.

Associated British Foods

Associated British Foods Limited, Weston Centre, 68 Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LR.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Tesco shops for the right formula

Tesco has managed to make up some lost ground in the second half after the dismal performance in the first and full-year profits are down by just under 11m at £35.6m pretax. The dividend has even been raised a fraction and with the shares up 3p to 65p yesterday the yield is now 5.6 per cent—more than twice the return offered by either Sainsbury or Asda.

Unfortunately this is about the only comparison with those two which is remotely favourable to Tesco even though it also serves to highlight the underperformance of Tesco's shares in the past year both against the market and the food retailing sector. It is also worth remembering that a year ago Tesco was predicting higher profits. In the event it has made lower profits on its near 7 million sq ft of selling space and little more than half the profit which Sainsbury squeezed out of about 3 million sq ft.

There are two main reasons for Tesco's poor returns and low margins: its disastrous expansion and its so far fairly disastrous ventures in non-foods, which now take 35 per cent of selling space. The cost of the huge new store programme is reflected both in much higher depreciation and the

the going is tough, especially in Italy, the biggest single market.

Dawson's solidity is not in doubt. Pretax profits, inflation-adjusted, were £16.8m, though streamlining of Mackinnon and recovery in yarn spinning could carry profits this year up to around £22.5m, and the cash board is being held not only for a fairly day but against further acquisitions. But if, as the group insists, a general textile recovery is under way, investment interest is likely to be turned towards more highly geared recovery prospects.

Some investors may have sold in May and some away, but unit trust holders were not among them. While the figures published yesterday by the Unit Trust Association showed that both purchases and net new investment last month were well down on the all-time record figures of April, the trend continues remarkably buoyant. As against net withdrawals of £5.5m in the first five months of 1980, and net new investment of only £30.5m in the corresponding period of 1979, in the first five months of this year net new investment amounted to £247.5m—which (in money terms, at least) is more than was invested in the whole of 1972, which was a record year for the industry.

More significant still, is the fact that the number of unit holder accounts is up again, for the fifth month running: not only is more money being invested, but more trusts are being bought. The story of all this lies in the fact that unit trusts have found their salvation in abandoning their origins. It is not the general trusts, with their wide spread, which are attracting the money: it is the specialists, and particularly the specialists in overseas markets, in which the private investor is now starting to take as an enthusiastic an interest as institutional investors.



Mr Leslie Porter, chairman of Tesco.

escalation in interest charges from £3.2m to £15.7m, even though year-end net debt was slightly down at £62m thanks to a non-repeatability £30m out of working capital and £29m from asset sales and leasebacks. Meanwhile non-foods—Home 'n' Wear—has been very disappointing and the range of products is being rationalized.

There is some evidence from the second half that Tesco is tackling its problems. Even though second half sales growth slowed, pre-interest margins recovered from 2.3 per cent in the first half to 3.2 per cent reflecting higher productivity and better sales mix as well as higher gross margins and even though volume growth may be hard to achieve this year, profits could struggle up to £40m. So there should be some mileage left in the shares since they have been left so far behind. But borrowings will be rising and, in the longer term the question remains whether Tesco can get its large store, high non-food content formula right, or whether its strategy is misconceived from the start.

Dawson International A mature look

Dawson International did well enough in the year to March to raise the shares 6p to a new peak of 191p yesterday, but it is now starting to look a mature textile group. It sailed through recession—pretax profits were only £16.3m in 1978-79 and in the past year they went up a further 14 per cent to £20.7m on sales that advanced at the same pace. But two thirds of Dawson's business is abroad—so it is not the leading beneficiary of the textile industry recovery that the directors are now confident is under way.

The group is also biased towards the luxury trade which did not suffer as much in recession. It is solid enough with a whole string of strong brand names but mindful of the 1971 and 1975 setbacks it is nursing cash resources which rose by £13m to £22.4m in the past year, equivalent to 39p a share. For perspective, capital spending was only £3.5m and dividends absorbed £4.2m. Allowing for the two acquisitions, Mackinnon and Ballantyne (which made no contribution to pretax profits) working capital actually fell by £1.1m. The group benefits from the fall of the pound against the dollar but little of its business is dollar-orientated. Against European currencies

Johnson Matthey Another solid performance

Johnson Matthey's final quarter produced £15.3m pretax, less of a downturn from last year's £18.4m than might have been expected in view of the scale of activity on the precious metals markets at the beginning of 1980. So the full-year return is £45.6m, an 18 per cent improvement to follow up last year's 78 per cent and good enough to push the shares up another 13p to 283p where they yield 4.7 per cent. This is a demanding rating, though it rests comfortably on the knowledge that the rights issue proceeds should chip in at least £5m in a full year, so £50m-plus is attainable on static trading. Any upturn in turnover on the bullion markets or any improvement in economic activity for the colours and mechanical divisions will provide an extra fillip—in the former case a substantial one.

Last year's anti-recessionary strength arose primarily from the refining and chemicals division which raced ahead as the metals dealt in the boom came through for processing quicker than usual because of the cost of holding precious metal stocks at high interest rates. In dealing and trading the performance of platinum should have more than doubled last year's £2.2m core. But while banking fell as the metal markets slipped into the doldrums and colours and mechanical met the full force of the recession.

Given, therefore, that the overall picture now looks rock solid if unexciting, the shares may well tend to drift somewhat from this level, but the fall could hardly be significant against this quality of performance.

There was nothing much for financial markets to get their teeth into in yesterday's economic statistics. The April industrial production figures continue to suggest that the recession may have been bottoming out in the first quarter of the year, rather than point to the long-hoped-for recovery. Certainly, there has been no sign from the Prime Minister over the last couple of days that there is going to be any stimulus from the Government end. Meanwhile, the make-up day for the June money supply figures came and went without serious hitch. The authorities moved quickly to relieve an unexpected shortage in the money markets and the overnight inter-bank rate never went higher than 12 per cent.

New York

In the two years since President Carter swept away the mountain of federal rules and regulations which laid down in detail where American airlines should fly, how often and at what price, the industry has been transformed.

It was then among the costliest and most profitable cartels in North America, with airlines competing in the extravagance of their advertising campaigns, the quality of their food and their ability, or otherwise, to deliver you and your luggage on time. But real competition barely existed. Price cutting was not allowed, and airlines could not muscle in on routes served by their rivals.

After Mr Carter allowed price cutting and freedom of entry into the business that all changed. Now air transport is the target for a breed of entrepreneurs who are not so much new as a throw-back to the barnstormers of the pioneer days of commercial aviation in the 1920s.

The established airlines are an easy target. Their expensive planes, prestige offices in the plush parts of the city, huge computer installations and massive overheads all make them ill-equipped for price cuts. So they are under siege—in California from PSA, in the South from Texas International, in the Chicago area from Midway and in the East from New York Air.

But for some, the most significant development is the launching of People Express, an airline which began flying only at the beginning of May. Rather than simply cut fares, it has challenged several of the basic concepts which air travellers took for granted.

"No one can complain about the fact that there is no food," says joint founder Mr Gerald Ginter, a 36-year-old marketing and planning expert who was formerly one of the youngest ever vice-presidents of TWA. His partner, and the airline's other founder, is 39-year-old Mr Donald Burr. The two met during a brief stint together in the executive offices of Texas International—then known disparagingly as "Texas Airlines"—but now so

America's latter-day barnstormers

In the second of two articles on 'no frills' flying Anthony Hilton describes a new US airline



Mr Donald Burr, left, and Mr Gerald Ginter, joint founders of People Express: "No one" can complain about the food, because there is none.

powerful that it is trying to take over Continental, one of the top 10 trunk carriers in the country.

No food means no galley on the aircraft, which gives more room for paying passengers. But it means a lot more besides. In fact, the flight attendants to collect fares rather than serve food, so the airline does not need ticket offices of its own. Passengers who feel the need for a travel agent, but others need simply to telephone

to make a reservation and pay the fare on board.

The extra space also means that there is more room for luggage in the cabin racks, and under-seat space has been redesigned. Passengers are actively encouraged to carry their luggage on board—so actively in fact that if you want your bags conveyed in the conventional way there is a \$3 surcharge for every item.

Minimizing luggage handling obviously saves labour costs, but

it also means that passengers can get on and off much faster. The company says that passengers with reservations need to arrive only 10 minutes before departure time and walk straight on board. At the other end they can leave immediately without having to wait for luggage—which of course means the aircraft can be turned round more quickly and used more intensively and efficiently.

All this, plus the shrewd purchasing of second-hand Boeing 737s admirably suited to short-

haul operations and the use of flexible, non-union labour, translates into astonishingly low fares, particularly outside the rush hours. From New York to Buffalo, 400 miles, costs \$23; to Columbus, Ohio, 550 miles, costs \$35; and to Jacksonville, Florida, 1,000 miles, costs \$49—which is like flying from London to the South of Spain for less than £25. Before People Express began operations the competition was charging \$99, \$146 and \$172 respectively, so it is not surprising that the first day the newcomer advertised its reservations desk handled 7,000 phone calls and it has been flying ever since.

That the airline is flying at all is also a tribute to the willingness of the American capital markets to back new ventures. Its founders, though they had ideas and experience, had no real money of their own, and certainly not enough to launch an airline. But last November San Francisco merchant bank Hambrecht and Quist (which also floated technology company Genetech and Apple Computer) organized a share issue which raised \$26m (£12.7m) in start-up capital.

This gave the company the credibility it needed to borrow money from other sources. In America and other smaller banks to finance the purchase of its aircraft. And so shrewdly did it bargain, its entire fleet of 17 Boeing 737s bought secondhand from Lufthansa will cost only a fraction more than just one of the new Boeing 757s to be delivered to its competitors from 1983 onwards.

Burr and Ginter are already millionaires—at least on paper. But it is still far too early to say whether they or their airline will be a long-term success. Although the established carriers cannot compete with it, there is the much more likely prospect that other "no frills" airlines will try to ape its success. And if that happens life will obviously become much tougher—though even better for the customer.

Economic notebook

Floating into a world of fixed rates?

An increasingly vociferous school is saying that floating is fine in theory but is creating all kinds of difficulties and dangers in practice.

interact through two great "oil shocks".

More important is the second, and principal premise of the floating school. This states that the floating rate system is the only logical one to use in a world in which domestic economic policies are largely monetarist-oriented.

Monetarists argue that if the prime aim of domestic economic policy is to control the domestic money supply, then the authorities must concentrate solely on controlling the quantity of money and forgo any attempts to establish a desirable price for it. That means abstaining from trying to set either an internal price (interest rates) or an external price (the exchange rate).

The problem with trying to meet an exchange rate target while pursuing a domestic money supply policy is quite simply that an exchange rate target almost inevitably involves official intervention in the foreign exchange markets. That, in turn, means that money is constantly being pumped into the system or, if the exchange rate is being supported, drawn off. In short, it threatens to undermine the whole process of monetary control.

Expansionary

From the hard-line floaters we can move on to the qualified floaters. This increasingly vociferous school says (or seems to say) that floating is fine in theory but is creating all kinds of difficulties and dangers in practice.

The problem, as they see it, is that some governments, notably the American Government, are not playing the game. They are pursuing monetarist policies but allowing too much

of the strain to be taken by interest rates, rather than fiscal policy. In other words, fiscal policy is still too expansionary in relation to the restrictive stance of money supply targets, with the inevitable result that interest rates shoot up.

This, consequently, causes large shifts in foot-loose international funds, (of which there are plenty about, thanks to the huge surpluses of the nations which make up the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) and the explosive growth of offshore money generally) and exchange rate movements which bear little relation to underlying inflation rates and trading patterns.

Shift the main burden of counter-inflation policy to fiscal measures, say the qualified floaters, and the floating rate system may well be able to work in an acceptable and useful way.

Not so, say the anti-floaters. The whole point is that govern-

ments really cannot be relied upon to pursue well-balanced policies under the present system. Some see the easing of monetary policy (publicly notified or otherwise) and a market adjustment to the exchange rate as an easy escape hatch if the political going gets too tough. Others may simply find it more expedient from the outset to throw the burden of policy on market forces rather than unpopular fiscal decisions.

Given that, and given the interest rate volatility inherent in some countries' monetary control techniques, then one is living in a dangerous world. Dangerous in the sense that industry is unable to plan; dangerous, too, because countries at the other end of sharp exchange rate movements will inevitably be tempted to take defensive action.

But that is not the end of the argument. Some fixed rate advocates would also question the adjustment mechanisms of a monetary/floating exchange rate system.

Pressures

Take, for example, the case of excessive demand developing in a particular economy, or a rise in relative costs. The demand for money would almost certainly rise and against a background of firm money supply restraint that would lead to rising interest rates and in all probability a rising exchange rate, too. In other words, the cost of money is raised and the pressures of international competitiveness intensified.

But is that necessarily the

right approach to the underlying problem? Arguably, a strategic fiscal adjustment might be a better way to deal with excessive demand (along with other supportive internal measures) the better way to deal with an underlying change in relative competitiveness.

In a sense, of course, that all points to a return to the bad old days of fiscal fine-tuning. Perhaps, however, the lesson that has since been learnt is precisely that fiscal fine-tuning is not so bad provided that fiscal policy as a whole is operating within the constraints of broad monetary framework.

How the exchange rate debate will evolve is anyone's guess. But two things at least seem clear. One is that any particular system is likely to work better given more fiscal discipline on the part of individual governments. The other is that there will be a great deal of indeterminateness of any one system against a background of Opec surpluses and extensive freedom of capital movement.

The traditional argument is that a fixed rate system during the seventies would have required deflationary fiscal adjustments that would have been politically and structurally impossible. The counter-argument is that the offsetting benefit would have been a more stable financial environment in which a far larger part of the world's increased savings would have found its way into real rather than paper assets.

John Whitmore

Business Diary: At last, Sir Campbell • Mrs Thatcher relents

The next president of the Confederation of British Industry is to be Sir Campbell Fraser, Pringle of Scotland, Braemar and Ballantyne luxury knitwear group, was in town from Kilmorye yesterday to explain why Dawson has become second biggest profit earner in textiles, with pretax profits of nearly £21m (in the year to March), while all Courtaulds could manage was £5.1m.

"I was brought up," he told me, "in Lanarkshire between the wars which meant we were poor and dad was often out of a job. The other day I ran into the vice-president of a United States bank. He told me that he had a huge income, stock options and a fine car—and that he could be out of a job at one day's notice. He thought this was fair. So did I."

Sir Terence Becket, the director general of the CBI, said yesterday that the real reason was that Sir Raymond was ill at the time.

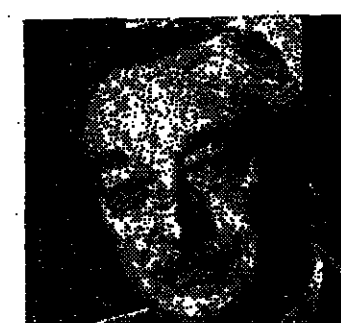
Sir Campbell, who will take over the presidency in eleven months and is a forceful speaker, is a director of British Petroleum, British American Tobacco Industries and Finance for Industry and is chairman of Scottish Television.

Alan Smith (right), chairman of Dawson International, the Pringle of Scotland, Braemar and Ballantyne luxury knitwear group, was in town from Kilmorye yesterday to explain why Dawson has become second biggest profit earner in textiles, with pretax profits of nearly £21m (in the year to March), while all Courtaulds could manage was £5.1m.

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the taxi like the next man.

Smith said that they needed assets, suppliers of cashmere and a lot of this came from China and Mongolia. "But the nomads there cannot meet our specifications. So we have started a cashmere goat industry in Australia's New South Wales and where we get a present around 40p of cashmere a goat, we could wind up getting a pound or two. But this is five to 10 years away."

"Japan is a fast growing market. In October we will help to sponsor a Japanese art and culture exhibition at London's Royal Academy, along with people like Shell. If, say, 4,000 people go through the gates it will not cost us a penny."

Brown says that his three records did better than expected when released in Japan and there are now plans to release them more widely, beginning with Italy and New Zealand, where the Chinese orchestra has toured. A fourth record, a trendily-entitled "Greatest Hits" of the Peking Opera, is also on its way.

Brown is trying to get the Chinese interested in EMU's western recordings—pressing, manufacturing and selling the discs in China. The three discs he was cut in Peking but pressed in Singapore and Hongkong. He played recordings of Mozart's Eine Kleine Nachtmusik and the Beatles' Yellow Submarine to broadcasting

Government ministers are rarely seen at a time like this in these austere times, but there was a more than convivial welcome for Geoffrey Pattie, Under-Secretary of State for the RAF at the Ministry of Defence at a fasting given yesterday by Dalatons of London, Oxford and Cambridge, at the Caledonian Club.

It was due to his personal intervention with the Prime Minister that Dalatons got a year's reprieve for the use of its own bonded warehouses for wines at its Paddington Green headquarters—one of the few such warehouses in central London owned by an independent firm.

Owing to cutbacks in Customs and Excise manning, levels of would have been due for closure under regulations stipulating a minimum turnover and size of stock.

Chairman Simon Bradley explained: "Geoffrey Pattie is a customer and an old friend and was able to make representations for us to the Prime Minister in view of our export potential. It is extremely encouraging that the Prime Minister should take a personal interest in fulfilling an election manifesto promise to support small businesses."

Dalatons, which received the Royal Warrant in January, has plans through a subsidiary company to export its own brands of gin and whisky, as well as table wines, very soon.

"I am confident we can expand business to meet the new regulations," Bradley says.

Packaging is a pet hate with people, even if it is you are fascinated by it, of one sort or another, then keep an eye open for "Taking the biscuit", an exhibition of tin made for Biscuits and Palmers between 1875 and 1939.

The exhibition opens at the Geoffrey Museum, Hackney, London, on July 8, and from August 3 it will go on tour throughout the South-east for the next year or so.

The "this was", all made by the Reading firm of Humbley, Bourne & Stevens and include the "Seasons" of about 1885, which is like a French snuffbox, and "Egyptian vase" of 1924, which might have been inspired by Lord Carnarvon's discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun.

Humbley and Palmers, part of Associated Biscuits, maintains the tradition and has naturally brought out a Chas and Di tin. The exhibition is of items from the Palmer collection at Reading. Art Museum, which Associated biscuits put on permanent loan there when the group emerged from the amalgamation of H and P with Jacobs and Paik Freemas.

Margaret Thatcher joke: The Prime Minister is out strolling with a secretary when she stops before a shop window. "See that 3 Tronsters 23 jackets £10? how can people say we're not beating inflation?" "Prime Minister," replies the secretary, "that's a dry cleaners."

Ross Davies

Chesterfield Properties Limited

RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1980.

	1980	1979
	£000	£000
Rental Income	4,882	4,032
Profit Before Tax	3,321	2,859
Profit After Tax	1,630	1,539
Earnings per Share	8.22p	7.77p
Dividend per Share	6.00p	5.00p

* Profit Before Tax Increased by 16%
* Dividends Increased by 20%

Copies of the Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Chesterfield Properties Limited, 50 Cannon Street, London W1Y 8EY.

Rowlinson

Mr. P. J. Rowlinson, Chairman, reports on the year ended 31st March, 1981:

- ★ Before-tax profits £240,516
- ★ After-tax profits with stock relief £250,137
- ★ Year of consolidation; now prepared for an upturn
- ★ 200,000 sq. ft. of new industrial property ready for letting
- ★ Increased profits forecast in the coming year

Accounts available from the Secretary
ROWLINSON CONSTRUCTIONS GROUP LTD.,
London House, London Road South,
Poynton, Cheshire SK12 1YE

Foreign exchange report

Other

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975 was down 0.1 at 95.6.

Money Market Rates

EMS Currency B

ates

Fixed \$D =

Conclusion

	June 17	June 16
Allied Chem	53½	59½

to 55,780,000 from 57,780,000

Borden	287	284
Borg Warner	53	53
Bristol Myers	222	221

77.95c:	July,	78.35c-78.40c:	Aug.
79.60c:	Sept.	80.80c-80.85c:	Dec.
84.25c-84.30c:	Jan.	85.30c:	March.

Dart & Kraft	512	512
Deere	384	384
Delta Air	742	762

768c: March, 797^{ac}-789^{ac}: May, 814c-
807c: July, 827c-819c. SOYABEAN
Oil closed 0.20 to 0.40 cent a lb

\$215.00: Dec. \$218.50-\$218.50
\$221.50: March, \$228.50: May
\$233.00: July, \$254.00-\$233.00
\$261.00-\$233.00

ard cash, £6,400-10 a tonne; three months £6,535-40. Sales, 285 tonnes. High grade, cash £6,400-10; three

July 740-741: Sept. 821-
858-859; March 870-871: May
July 828-829: Sept. 917-918

504p; three months, 519-520p. Settlement. 504p. Sales. 41 lots.

Aug. E10A.75 Trans-shion
coast rollers. US hard wh
per cent: June. E110.54

Secondary Mkt. FCU Rates (%)			
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 months 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Local Authority Market (%)			
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months 13 $\frac{1}{2}$		
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 months 13		
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 year 13 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Interbank Market (%)			
11	Open 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11	Close 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	
11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 months 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11 $\frac{1}{2}$		
12-11 $\frac{1}{2}$	9 months 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -11 $\frac{1}{2}$		
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$	12 months 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -12 $\frac{1}{2}$		
Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate) (%)			
13 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 months 13 $\frac{1}{2}$		
House Base Rate 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -13			

354	394	Rockwell Int	427	424
567	564	Royal Dutch	32	314
35	54	Stearns	34	33
317	317	St Regis Paper	37	374
284	284	Santa Fe Ind	22	23
104	104	SCM	27	264
28	284	Schlumberger	804	884
634	584	Scott Paper	284	284
334	334	Seagram	524	53
284	284	Sears Roebuck	284	284

[illegible]

624	344	Travelers Corp	53	53
625	613	TRW Inc	63	63
626	824	UAL Inc	26	26
627	704	Union Carbide	60	60
628	239	Union Oil Calif	32	28
629	215	Un Pacific Corp	55	63
630	210	Unocal	94	84

10%	65%	United Brands	12%	12%
10%	65%	US Industries	10%	10%
10%	15%	US Steel	31%	30%
30%	30%	Utah Technol	85%	56%
20%	49%	Wachovia	57%	57%
20%	20%	Warner Lambert	39%	20%
20%	20%	Wells Fargo	26%	25%
40%	41%	West'n S&P Corp	40%	40%
20%	20%	Westinghse Elec	31%	30%
100%	100%	Weyerhaeuser	37%	36%
100%	50%	Whitcomb	37%	28
100%	50%	Woodworth	33%	28%
85%	82%	Xerox Corp	55%	53%
51%	62%	Zenith	19%	19%
71%	71%			
61%	61%			

Canadian Prices		
Abilubi	36	26%
Alcan Alumin	38	38%
Algoma Steel	47	47%
Roll Telephone	18	18

28 1/2	Comstock	69 1/2	10 1/2
28 3/4	Continental	69 1/2	10 1/2
29	Gulf Oil	69 1/2	10 1/2
29 1/4	Hawkefield Can	69 1/2	10 1/2
29 1/2	Standard Oil	69 1/2	10 1/2
29 3/4	Hudson Bay Oil	69 1/2	10 1/2
30	Imperial Oil	69 1/2	10 1/2
30 1/4	Int'l Pipe	69 1/2	10 1/2
30 1/2	Int'l Paper	69 1/2	10 1/2
30 3/4	Rockwell	69 1/2	10 1/2
31	Rockwell Trust	69 1/2	10 1/2
31 1/4	Steel Co	69 1/2	10 1/2
31 1/2	Steel Corp	69 1/2	10 1/2
31 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
32	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
32 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
32 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
32 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
33	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
33 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
33 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
33 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
34	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
34 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
34 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
34 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
35	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
35 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
35 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
35 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
36	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
36 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
36 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
36 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
37	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
37 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
37 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
37 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
38	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
38 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
38 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
38 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
39	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
39 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
39 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
39 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
40	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
40 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
40 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
40 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
41	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
41 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
41 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
41 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
42	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
42 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
42 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
42 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
43	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
43 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
43 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
43 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
44	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
44 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
44 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
44 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
45	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
45 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
45 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
45 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
46	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
46 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
46 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
46 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
47	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
47 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
47 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
47 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
48	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
48 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
48 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
48 3/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
49	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
49 1/4	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
49 1/2	Wm Wrigley	69 1/2	10 1/2
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B¹c-465¹c: May, 479¹c-476c: July.
B²c-483¹c: MAIZE was easy. July.
B³c-444¹c: Sept. 506c-552¹c: Dec.
B⁴c-558¹c: March, 375¹c-372c:
TS fared mixed July, 216¹c-212c:

[illegible]

	WHEAT	WHEAT	BARLEY
Midlands	£115	£114	£105.50
East	—	£115	£108.50
Midland	—	—	—

FAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on 2/11

1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645,

Eurosyndicat
The Eurosyndicat Index on
European share prices was put
provisionally at 135.54 on June 16

against 141.98 a week earlier.

No striking out before defence

negotiations for completing the contract, the contract price being more than £1m.

He asked the Austrian company if they would do a private deal with him instead of with

Mr Shore was at all material times the branch manager of Lloyds Bank at Colborne Row, Birmingham, and the bank agreed to become bankers to H. W. Technology and so acted before and after its incorporation. The contract with the Austrian company provided for an irrevocable guarantee from Lloyds of £150,000 for the

The plaintiffs relied on five causes of actions against the bank. (1) It participated knowingly in a dishonest and fraudulent design. (2) It received and became chargeable with some part of trust property. (3) It assisted in the procurement of a breach of contract. (4) It unlawfully interfered with the plaintiff's business. (5) It knowingly

The notice of motion was misconceived and would be

Solicitors: White & Leonard
for: Broomheads & Neals,
Sheffield; Cameron Markby.

plaintiff's claim disclosed no cause of action against the

bank, which had submitted that it was merely an ordinary banking transaction.

The judge then put in brackets the question of whether the solicitors which mainly put in the plaintiffs to proof, and the bank had been wholly uncooperative. He could only conclude that the bank did not want to give discovery.

The judge's motion was misconceived and would be dismissed. The bank should put in a defence and give discovery. It could then try to raise a preliminary question of law.

Solicitors: White & Leonard for the bank; B. & Neale, Sheffield; Cameron Markby.

[illegible]

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7. The Commission has also been informed that the Government of India has been requested to provide information on the progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission's report on the subject.

La crème de la crème

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LEGAL NOTICES

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Re: VANDER AND GORMAN Limited. Notice is hereby given that the company has been dissolved under the provisions of the Companies Act 1948. The company was registered at the Companies House, London W1A 5BA on Thursday the 17th day of June 1981. By order of the Board, D. T. GRAMMOND, Director.

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LONDON AND SUBURBAN

SW1 - Immediate sale. Urgent sale. 3 beds, 1 bath, 1 kitchen, 1 living area, 2 balconies, 1 terrace, 1 garden. £25,000. 375 4664 710 2430.

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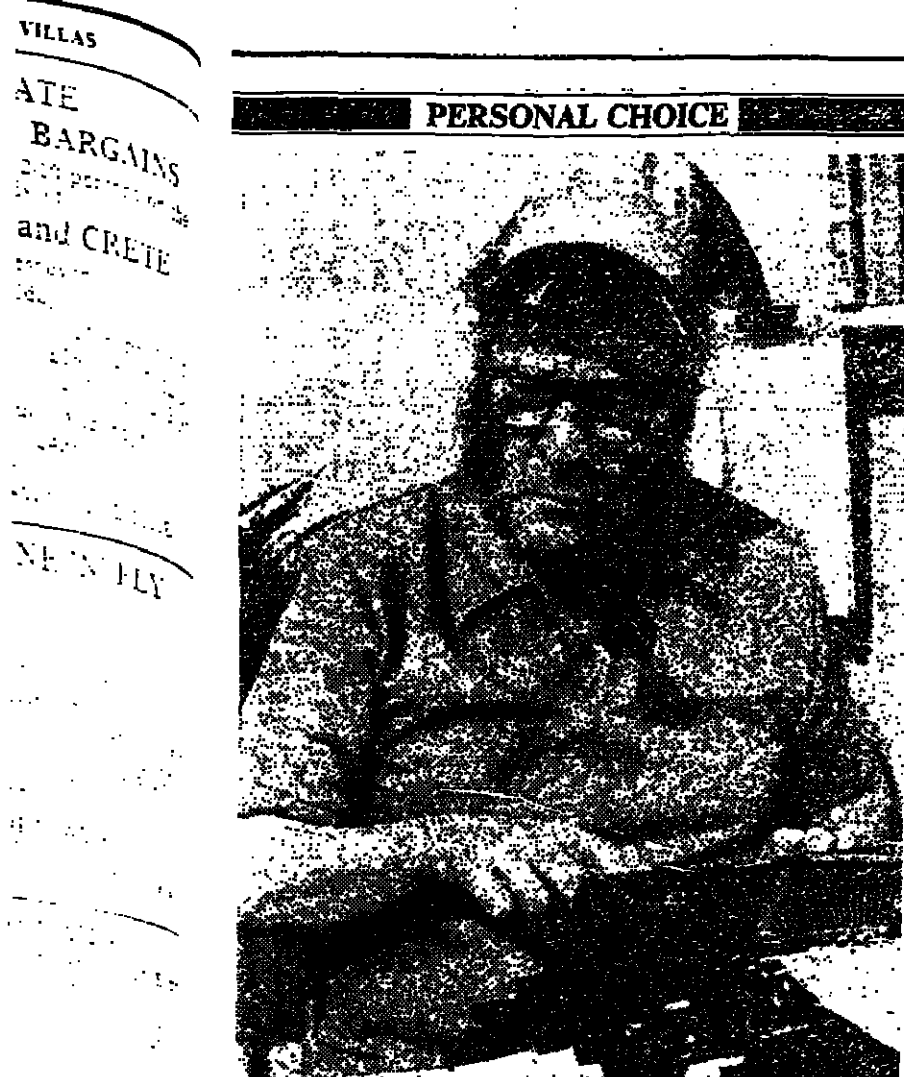
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PERSONAL CHOICE



Amos Brearly (Ronald Magill) turns newspaper editor in *Emerald Farm* (Thames, 5.15). It is screened in other ITV areas at differing times tonight and tomorrow.

● **WENT THE DAY WELL?** (BBC 2, 8.30pm) brings down the curtain on BBC 2's season of war films. It is, perhaps, the least known of them. This is not to say that, for this reason, the season goes out with a whimper. This old Ealing film about an English village invaded by German paratroops is the work of Alberto Cavalcanti, the Brazilian-born director who made a considerable impact on the British documentary film movement of the Thirties. His was one of the guiding hands behind the famous GPO Film Unit production *Night Mail*, and *North Sea*. Heightened fact was his forte, and *Went the Day Well* admirably demonstrates this quality in his work. It was not at his best with pure fiction, viz *Nicholas Nickleby*. But his was the episode about the Finnish child in the horror compilation *Dead of Night*. It is a tale that still makes me damp-browed when I think of it.

● The Australian-made serial based on Nevil Shute's *A TOWN LIKE ALICE* reaches its conclusion tonight (BBC 2, 9.25pm) and I strongly deplore the way it clashes with *Went the Day Well* on BBC 1. The Corporation's alternative viewing policy is a highly commendable one, but its effectiveness is impaired when drama is opposed to drama. My colleague Peter Dear has already praised this adaptation of the Shute novel. Let me heap further garlands on its head. It respects the wide span of the book as the otherwise worthy Rank film of the Fifties did not. It is exceptionally well cast and makes the maximum use of its locations. In short, it doesn't compromise over quality merely because it was made for TV and not the cinema.

● Part two of **HANGING FIRE: THE STATE OF ISRAEL** (BBC 2, 10.15pm) examines the Israelis' first 14 years as conquerors of former Arab-held lands. Or are they merely retrievers? Or tyrants? Martin Young's is a well-balanced report, and the centre ground in the argument is interestingly filled in by those Israelis who are agonising over their new role of occupier and whether it means the same thing as oppressor.

● The Radio Theatre 81 experiment on Radio 3, which has brought us plays that have already been staged, has been an up-and-down success story. We have sometimes had the worst of both worlds, not the best. Tonight's play, *Tom McGrath's WHO ARE YOU ANYWAY?* (7.30pm), about three characters with no names or backgrounds, was recorded before an audience at the Transverse Theatre in Edinburgh. What benefits we, the listeners, derive from such a method of presentation remains to be seen.

SYMBOLS KEY: (STEREO); (BLACK AND WHITE); (REPEAT).

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davale

TELEVISION

BBC 1

6.40 am Appletown House. 7.05 Feature Films as Propaganda. 7.30 A New Look at Bonding. 9.47 For Schools. Colleges: Science (water). 10.10 Merry-go-round. 10.35 Anatomy of a Gang. 11.05 Near and Far (Sunday). 11.25 Ticket: The First Test. England versus Australia. From Trent Bridge. Live coverage. From the very first delivery. More at 3.00. Then coverage switches to BBC 2 (4.55). And there are highlights tonight, also on BBC 2, at 10.15. 1.15 pm News. 1.30 Check-a-Block: for the very young. Closedown at 1.45. 2.00 You and Me: For the toddlers. 2.15 For - Schools. Colleges: Music Time (dancing). 2.40 Television Club. 3.00 The First Test: Further coverage of the first play. The commentators are Richie Bennett, Jim Laker, Ted Dexter and Mike Smith. 3.55 Play School: The Sailor, by Dick Bruna. 4.20 The Peckles. Pussle: Cartoon (fr). 4.40 Oscar, Kina and the Laser: Cartoon adventure story, told by Ray Brooks, and made in

BBC 2

6.40 am Open University: The Athabasca Glacier. 7.05 Screening: Nuclear Hazard. 7.30 Maths: Vector Spaces. 11.00 Play School: Same as BBC 1. 3.55 (The Sailor). Closedown at 11.25. 1.30 pm Royal Ascot and Tennis: Tracy Austin defends her title in the BMW Championship. 1.45 The Peckles. 2.40 Tennis: Further coverage at 4.35 and at 11.30 tonight. The commentators are Dan Maskell, John Barrett and Ann Jones. 5.15 Ladies Day at Royal Ascot. We see the 2.30, 3.45, 4.45 (The Gold Cup) and 4.20 races. 4.35 Tennis and Cricket: Further coverage of the First Test

Thames

9.30 am For Schools: Understanding physics. 9.52 Hot and cold. 10.05 Selby colliery. 10.31 Preparing for birth. 10.53 A-level physics. 11.09 Children's ward nursing. 11.27 Britain's coastline. 11.44 Fiction: Box. 12.00 The Art of the Story: A John Ryan story. 12.10 pm Get up and Go! Berd Reid programme for the toddlers. 12.30 The Sullivan: Australians at war, in Africa. 1.00 News. 1.20 Thames news. 1.30 Take the High Road: Scottish serial. Dinner at the big house. 2.00 Here Today: Songs from Iris Williams; plus Diana Moran on the new fashion. 2.25 Best Sellers: Top of the Hill. Former executive dreams of fame amid the snows of the Winter Olympics. With Wayne

BBC 1

Spain. 5.00 John Craven's Newsround. 5.10 Blue Peter: Maggie and Jim, the twins, take part in the great race at Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Plus rap-dancing from Julie Parker. 5.40 News with Richard Baker. 5.55 Regional news magazines. 6.20 Nationwide: Alan Towers from Midlands Today presents the Good Report team. 6.45 Tomorrow's World: The Prince of Wales meets the finalists in part one of the Prince of Wales Award for Industrial Innovation and Production, and their entries will be seen. 7.20 Top of the Pops with Peter Powell as MC. 7.55 The Hitch-Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy: Pursued by nuclear missiles, Zaphod Beeblebrox, heard in the stolen spaceship, towards the legendary planet of Magrathea (fr). 8.30 Rings on Their Fingers: Another showing of this domestic comedy series starring Diane Keston and Martin Jarvis. Tonight: the difficulty of buying a birthday gift for a girl who seems to have everything (fr).

BBC 2

10.15 Hanging Fire: The State of Israel. Second film in a series of three. The sources of the Arabs' resentment against the Jews, including accusations of stolen land and protests against mass punishment. (See Personal Choice). 10.45 Question Time: The panel consists of David Howell, MP, Janet Morgan, editor of the Crossman Diaries, Michael Meacher, Labour MP for Oldham West, and Woodrow Wyatt, chairman of the House of Commons. Tony Benn was scheduled to appear on the panel but his illness made this impossible. 11.45 News headlines.

Regions

10.15 News. 10.45 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 8.45 News. 9.00 News. 9.15 News. 9.30 News. 9.45 News. 10.00 News. 10.15 News. 10.30 News. 10.45 News. 11.00 News. 11.15 News. 11.30 News. 11.45 News. 12.00 News. 12.15 News. 12.30 News. 12.45 News. 1.00 News. 1.15 News. 1.30 News. 1.45 News. 2.00 News. 2.15 News. 2.30 News. 2.45 News. 3.00 News. 3.15 News. 3.30 News. 3.45 News. 4.00 News. 4.15 News. 4.30 News. 4.45 News. 5.00 News. 5.15 News. 5.30 News. 5.45 News. 6.00 News. 6.15 News. 6.30 News. 6.45 News. 7.00 News. 7.15 News. 7.30 News. 7.45 News. 8.00 News. 8.15 News. 8.30 News. 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